

DR. LIVINGSTONE'S
17 YEARS
EXPLORATIONS & ADVENTURES
IN THE
WILDS OF AFRICA

ILLUSTRATED.

H. B. Parsons

Guelph

1857



c
DR. LIVINGSTONE'S

17 YEARS'

Explorations and Adventures

IN THE

WILDS OF AFRICA.

EDITED BY

JOHN HARTLEY COOMBS, F.R.S.



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RIVER ZAMBEZI, NEAR ITS SOURCE.

P R E F A C E.

IT seldom happens that a traveler is unwilling to be the historian of his own adventures ; as nearly all of those who undertake to explore strange countries, do so, doubtless, for the express purpose of acquiring celebrity ; wherefore they have a sufficient inducement to make the world fully acquainted with the history of their discoveries, by stating all the facts connected therewith, and occasionally *something more*. But the Reverend Dr. David Livingstone, whose thrilling and almost unrivaled experiences as a traveler are recorded in this volume, is a man whose excessive modesty, or Christian self-denial, or eccentricity of character, or whatever you please to call it, withholds from becoming a candidate for public applause by relating a traveler's stories concerning things heard and seen in lands unvisited by any person besides himself. He has, in the most unequivocal manner, expressed a determination not to give, at the present time, any written account of his African researches, from under his own hand. At the same time, he has shown the utmost willingness to answer any inquiries relative to the incidents of his long and weary pilgrimages ; and to the freedom of his communications on these subjects, the editor of this work is indebted for the deeply interesting facts now presented to the public.

The individual whose name is affixed to this volume, deems it due to himself to state that he will derive no pecuniary advantage whatever from the publication. He does not feel under any obligation to declare what motives influenced him to undertake the task of collecting all the facts connected with Dr. Livingstone's travels which could possibly be obtained from authentic sources. But he would call attention to the circumstance, that the British public deeply regret the Doctor's resolution not to publish a narrative of his own travels ; and the editor of this volume considered that such an account as *he* could give would serve in some measure to abate that general feeling of disappointment which the Doctor's refusal to be his own chronicler has occasioned.

Hoping that this explanation will be satisfactory to all who require any explanation in the premises, the editor concludes these prefatory observations by assuming the responsibility for all errors and inaccuracies which may appear in this book, and exculpating the reverend traveler himself from any blame on that account.

London, Feb. 4th, 1857.

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DROVE OF ELEPHANTS APPROACHING THE LAKE

LIVINGSTONE'S

AFRICAN EXPLORATIONS.

CHAPTER I.

WHY AFRICA IS (COMPARATIVELY SPEAKING), AN UNKNOWN REGION—ANCIENT IDEAS CONCERNING THIS CONTINENT — EARLY EXPLORATIONS — DISCOVERIES OF RICHARD GREAVES, THOMAS SHAW, NIELSUTIZ, DE MAILLET, F. L. NORDEN, JAMES BRUCE, COUNT VOLNEY, HORNEMANN, SONNINI, WILLIAM BROWNE, &C., &C.

IN all ages of the world, Africa has been regarded as a land of mystery, a region which Nature herself has fortified against the intrusions of human curiosity, and the encroachments of foreign ambition. A large portion of the continent has been protected from conquest and exploration, by insurmountable barriers, as it appeared, which made it impossible for strangers to penetrate to the interior of the country; or, if they succeeded in doing so, they became the victims of their

own temerity, and were not permitted to return and publish the results of their discoveries to the world. The African wildernesses kept their own secrets, together with the moldering bones of many a daring adventurer, who struggled hard for the wreath due to the successful explorer, but gained nothing but a crown of martyrdom.

The peculiar malignancy of the African climate is the grand obstacle to all extensive explorations of the country. To *live* in some parts of Africa for any considerable length of time, is itself an achievement of which few exotic constitutions are capable. In addition to this formidable difficulty, the man who prosecutes his researches in the interior of this country, must endure hardships and privations of a most appalling character; to say nothing of the dangers to be apprehended from the universal prejudice which the native Africans entertain for men whose complexions are fairer than their own. It is scarcely necessary to mention, among the perils which a traveler in Africa must encounter, the abundance of ferocious animals with which every portion of this region is stocked; a circumstance, which exposes the solitary wayfarer to the constant danger of being devoured by the proverbially sanguinary monsters infesting African forests, or which range over the extensive plains of that inhospitable country.

These reasons, perhaps, may be sufficient to account for the fact that a large part of the African continent is *terra incognita*; a fact which, to a superficial observer, might appear to be discreditable to the enter-

prising spirit of this age. But Malte Brun gives other explanations of the fact, that a considerable part of Africa is inaccessible, or was so considered by the ancients. "If but little is known concerning the interior of this continent," says the writer just named, "we shall find the cause in the physical form of Africa. A vast peninsula of 5000 miles in length, and nearly 4600 in breadth, presents few long or easily navigated rivers. The Mediterranean on the north, and the Atlantic and Ethiopic oceans which encompass it on the west, present inconsiderable inequalities in its line of coast; and the Arabian Gulf separates Africa from Asia, without breaking the gloomy uniformity of the African shore. At great distances are some large rivers, as the Nile in the north-east; the Senegal and Gambia, in the west; and, in the centre, the mysterious Niger, which conceals its termination, as the Nile used to conceal its origin. In the interior, and even on the coasts, are great and lofty rocks, from which no torrents can proceed; and table lands, watered by no streams, such as the great desert of Sahara. At a greater distance are countries wholly impregnated with moisture."

Owing to these various causes the knowledge of this continent which the ancients possessed was confined within comparatively narrow limits. In its greatest extent, as known to antiquity, it contained three divisions: 1st of Egypt, extending from the Red Sea and Rhinocoluza in Arabia Petræa to Apis, on the Plinthoric Gulf; 2d, Marmorica, extending as far as 40 degrees

E. longitude. Between these and the Syrtis Minor lay the barren country called by the ancients *Regio Syrtica* or *Tripolitani*. West of this were the settlements of *Numidia* and *Mauritania*.

Besides these, the Greeks and Romans had indefinite notions of a country extending to an unknown limit south of Egypt, which they called *Æthiopia*, and of a desert waste, lying to the west of Egypt, to which they gave the name of *Lybia*.

Herodotus, who lived about twenty-two centuries ago, states that he had learned from some natives of *Æthiopia* that there existed a great river of Africa, far to the south of the Great Desert and abounding with crocodiles. He states that the inhabitants of this region are black; and these items seem to comprise all the information he possessed in relation to the country.

It is a remarkable circumstance that some of the most successful explorations of Africa have been made by persons acting under religious impulses. In some cases, however, these explorations were involuntary; as when Christians were carried into captivity by savage tribes of negroes and were afterward ransomed by their friends and countrymen. The accounts which these people brought back were so wonderful that they have generally been considered as fabulous, though the reports of later travelers confirm many of their most incredible stories.

Since the year 1720, the countries situated between the Lybian desert, the Atlas ranges, the Mediterranean and Egypt, have been partially explored by various

travelers, viz: Monette, Winder, Rev. T. Shaw, Dr. Lempriere, Domingo Badio, (better known as Ali Bey,) Capt. Blaquiere, Minutoli, Pactro and Capt. Beechey. But these explorations were ill devised, and all failed, in a measure, for want of a systematic mode of operation. At a still earlier period, Egypt, "the cradle of African civilization," became a favorite object of study with the *savans* of Europe. Its ancient splendor, its time-defying monuments, its magnificent Nile, presented unrivaled attractions to the antiquarian and the archeologist.

One of the earliest explorers of this mystic land was Richard Greaves, an Oxford professor, who was commissioned by Archbishop Laud to purchase manuscripts in the Levant. He visited Egypt in the year 1639-40, confining his researches chiefly to the Pyramids; and on his return to England, he published the results of his observations in a work called "Pyramidographia."

Thomas Shaw, an erratic clergyman, mentioned in the preceding catalogue of African travelers, published a narrative of his travels in Barbary and the Levant, about the close of the seventeenth century. Niebuhr was a Hanoverian; he served the celebrated Dutch expedition of Count Bernstoff, in 1761, in the capacity of geographer, and was the only one who returned from the mission. His travels were principally in Egypt. De Maillet was the French Consul at Alexandria; he published a singular and fanciful book on Egypt, of very little value as a work of science.

Frederic L. Norden was sent by the King of Den-

mark to Egypt, for the purpose of making drawings and descriptions of the ancient monuments of that country. This work he accomplished, and produced a valuable book of "Travels in Egypt and Nubia." This accomplished traveler died in 1742.

A Scotchman, named James Bruce, is one of the most renowned of the African travelers. His travels have been widely published and are too well known to require any particular notice in this place. We may remark, however, that his veracity was seriously called in question by some of his cotemporary critics, who conceived that some of his accounts of African affairs were too wonderful to be true. Subsequent accounts, however, have confirmed the "incredible" narratives of Bruce; but, as usual, the world corrected its error too late, and Bruce died under the imputation of fabricating traveler's stories. After encountering thousands of dangers by sea and land, he perished in consequence of a fall down a stair-case in his own house!

Count Volney, author of that celebrated deistical work called "Volney's Ruins," made an excursion through Egypt and Syria, and published an account thereof in 1787. Another Frenchman, named G. Antoine Olivier, published, near the close of the eighteenth century, an excellent work on the Ottoman Empire, Egypt and Persia. But a still more famous traveler was De Manoncourt Sonnini, the friend and assistant of Buffon. He published a very satisfactory account of many parts of Africa, but did not extend his researches to the interior.

Frederick Conrad Hornemann was a native of Germany, born in 1772. He entered the service of the world-renowned African Association of London, founded by Sir Joseph Banks. Under the instructions of this society, Hornemann commenced his African explorations in 1797. He visited Alexandria and Cairo, crossed the Lybian desert, visited Mourzouk, the capital of Fezzan, and finished his route at Tripoli. It was a part of his commission to visit the interior of the continent, but his sudden death, caused by drinking cold water, terminated his career at the place last named. His manuscript journal was recovered and subsequently published by the society.

A large number of scientific men accompanied the army of Napoleon into Egypt, and the results of their labors are recorded in the magnificent work of the Baron Denon, entitled "Travels in Upper and Lower Egypt, during the Campaigns of General Bonaparte." About the same time an English traveler, named William Browne, explored northern Africa, and published, in 1799, the first account of the kingdoms of Darfur and Bornou.

Up to this time, and indeed until a much later period, a large portion of Africa continued to be a blank on the map, designated merely as the "Unexplored Regions." The difficulties and dangers which attended all traveling in the interior of this country seem to have operated, for a time, as an effectual check on the enterprising spirit of the age.

CHAPTER II.

EXPLORATIONS OF AFRICA IN THE PRESENT CENTURY—
DISCOVERIES OF HAMILTON, BURKHARDT, F. GILLAUD,
LORD VALENTIA, DR. BEKE, COUNT DE LAUTURE,
TREMEAUX, BARROW, TROTTER, DR. ANDREW SMITH,
MONTEIRO, RILEY, PEDDIE, BOWDITCH, MOLLION, CLAP-
PERTON, LAING, LANDER, BARTHE, &c.

THE work of African exploration has experienced a great revival since the beginning of the nineteenth century. African travelers have become sufficiently numerous, though, with a few exceptions, their labors have not been crowned with dazzling success. Mr. Hamilton visited Upper Egypt in 1801. Mr. Legh penetrated beyond the cataracts in 1813. Mr. Burkhart examined Nubia in the same year. In 1819 Belzoni acquired great reputation by his researches among the pyramids and tombs of Egypt. Like many others, he fell a victim to the insalubrity of the climate, his untimely death preventing him from visiting Timbuctoo, as he intended.

From 1815 to 1822, explorations were made by Frederick Gillaud, a Frenchman, eastwardly and westwardly from the Nile as far as Meroc, the White River, and the kingdom of Sennaar. A very satisfactory

account of Abyssinia was published in 1809, by Lord Valentia and his traveling companion, Henry Salt. Other accounts of Abyssinia were published a few years later, by Dr. Beke and Major Harris; and Count de Lauture, we believe, is still prosecuting his researches in that neighborhood. Two other Frenchmen, Messrs. Tremeaux and Beaux Rollet, are now engaged in making scientific investigations in the same part of Africa; and, among other important facts which they have brought to light, it is said that they have ascertained that there are no *hommes a queue*, or men with tails, to be found in those regions—a piece of intelligence which will gratify those who contend for the perfect equality of the several races of mankind.

Numbers of travelers have made interesting examinations in southern Africa, and in the regions bordering on the Cape of Good Hope. Barrow penetrated to the Orange River, at 30° S. latitude. Trotter and Somerville reached Latakoo, the capital of the Bechuanas, where Dr. Livingstone resided for eight years.

Natal, an extensive district comprising about two hundred miles on the southeast coast of Africa, was unknown to Europe previously to the year 1719. It became a British possession in 1834, and it has subsequently been well described by Dr. Andrew Smith, the Rev. Mr. Archibell, and the Rev. H. Wilder, an American missionary.

In the years 1836–37, Sir James E. Alexander visited the Bushmen and other native tribes to the north of the Cape, and represented some of these people as little

superior to brutes. According to his reports they mix earth with their food, and have no knowledge of a Supreme Being. The extreme length of their spinal columns was considered by Sir James as another evidence of their bestial character.

Sir John Barrow, well known as the Arctic navigator, made an exploration of the country eastward from the Cape of Good Hope, and published an account of his travels about the beginning of this century. Several Portuguese travelers have made successful explorations in Africa within the last twenty years. In 1854, the history of a Portuguese expedition into Africa, conducted by Major Monteiro, was issued from the Lisbon press. This work contains a full account of Cazembe, and a map of the countries between Tete, on the Zambesi River, and Lunda.

Captain Riley, an American navigator, was shipwrecked on the coast of Barbary in 1815. His narrative of a journey through a considerable part of Africa is composed chiefly of an account of his own sufferings, while detained as a prisoner by a party of wandering Arabs. In 1816 an expedition, under the command of Capt. Tuckey, was sent out by the British government, the main object being to ascertain whether the Congo or Zaire was not one of the outlets of the Niger. This traveler likewise perished before the objects of his mission were accomplished. Major Peddie and Capt. Campbell met with a similar fate, while endeavoring to ascend the Rio Nunez. Both died of the "African fever," at Kakumudy, but a posthumous

account of their observations on the Foulah territories was published.

In 1817, Thomas Edward Bowditch made an official exploration of the country of the Ashanties, and disclosed many important facts in relation to the interior of Africa. He perished on the banks of the Gambia. In 1818, M. Mollion, a French traveler, visited Foota Tora, Bonda, and Foota Talla, and obtained some valuable information in relation to the sources of the Niger. In 1822, Major Laing approached the mountains at the foot of which the Niger begins to flow.

Capt. Clapperton was still another victim to African exploration. In his first voyage to Africa, being accompanied by Capt. Denman, he made several excursions from Mourzouk to the interior. In one of these trips he discovered Lake Tchad. He proceeded as far as Soccatoo, the capital of Konka, where, being forbidden by the local authorities to continue his journey eastward, he returned to England. In 1825, Clapperton made another voyage to Africa, accompanied by Capt. Pearce, Mr. Morrison, and Richard Lander, Clapperton's servant. Without making any new discoveries of importance, the whole party perished except Lander, the servant.

In 1826, Major Laing was directed by the British government to penetrate to Timbuctoo from Tripoli. He left the last named place two days after his marriage to a beautiful girl, the daughter of the British consul general at that place. While crossing the desert his caravan was attacked by robbers, and while endeavor-

ing to repel his assailants, the major received twenty-four wounds, several of which were quite serious. He contrived to reach Timbuctoo, however, and after remaining long enough to be cured of his wounds, he was ordered to return by the native Sultan. This African monarch committed Major Laing to the charge of an Arab sheik, by whom the unfortunate traveler was murdered on his journey. His journal and other papers were all lost.

The next African expedition was that of Richard Lander who, accompanied by his brother John, in March, 1830, visited Boussa, and from thence descended by the river Niger, to the ocean, discovering the river Tchadde on their way, and making many other valuable observations. In 1832, a Liverpool company fitted out another expedition, which was placed under Lander's direction. This expedition was provided with two small steamers and a sailing vessel, the main design being to navigate the river Niger as far toward its source as possible. Mr. Hugh Laing, one of the projectors of this enterprise, accompanied the travelers. Another member of the party was Lieutenant Allen of the British navy. Before the vessels had proceeded many miles on their voyage, the climate destroyed twenty of the party. Mr. Laing became discouraged or alarmed, and returned to Europe. Lander, with the survivors of his company, proceeded up the Niger to Babba, a town supposed to contain forty thousand inhabitants. Here they were harshly treated by the negro king, who charged the travelers with the practice of eating black

HOW THE NATIVES CATCH THE HIPPOPOTAMUS.



men in their own country, and dyeing red cloth with their blood. Besides, he declared the English to be a nation of ignorant blockheads, who knew nothing of the great Allah. The voyagers were driven away, and in a skirmish with the natives, Mr. Lander was shot, and died of his wound. Mr. Oldfield was almost the only surviving member of this expedition who returned to England, and he made several almost miraculous escapes with his life.

Dr. Barthe, Dr. Overbeg, and Mr. James Richardson commenced a tour of observation in Africa in 1848. Dr. Overbeg died on the African coast in 1852; the two other gentlemen continued their labors by making researches in Sonden, Libtako, and Gurma. Dr. Barthe resided for a whole year in Timbuctoo, and afterward published the best account of that locality and its inhabitants that the European public has ever obtained. Subsequently Dr. Barthe's party was joined by Mr. Vogel, after which the examinations were conducted in a systematic manner; and by the combined efforts of these gentlemen, much information of vast importance was obtained. To Dr. Barthe and his colaborer we owe all our knowledge of Adama, as well as the most particular accounts we have of Bornou and Mandera. Dr. Vogel, the associate of Dr. Barthe, undertook the examination of the country between Lake Tchadde and Nubia. Mr. Richardson, another member of this party, left Tunis for the purpose of exploring Central Africa, but died before he accomplished his journey.

The voyage of the steamer *Pleiad*, in 1856, under

the direction of Dr. Baikie of the British navy, was in some respects the most remarkable and fortunate African expedition on record. This vessel ascended the Tchadde two hundred and fifty miles beyond the point which Captain Allen and Mr. Oldfield had reached in 1842. Dr. Baikie, the commander of the *Pleiad* ascertained that this river was navigable up to Yola, the capital of Adama, and he succeeded in making accurate surveys of the country through which he passed. But the most remarkable particular in relation to this voyage was, that not a single life was lost by disease or accident.

These notices of African travel bring us down to the date of Dr. Livingstone's operations, which form the subject of the following pages. In these introductory chapters, we have endeavored to show how much had been accomplished by preceding explorations, in order that the value of Livingstone's discoveries and observations may be correctly estimated.

CHAPTER III.

PRIVATE HISTORY OF DR. LIVINGSTONE—HIS BIRTH AND PARENTAGE—INCIDENTS OF HIS EARLY LIFE—HIS OPERATIONS IN A COTTON-FACTORY—HOW HE OBTAINED HIS SCHOOLING—HE BECOMES A MISSIONARY—VISITS THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE—TRAVELS INTO THE INTERIOR—GETS MARRIED—SOME ACCOUNT OF HIS WIFE—DESCRIPTION OF HIS PERSONAL APPEARANCE.

DOUBTLESS the reader will pardon us for introducing, among other preliminary matters, some account of the early life of the distinguished traveler whose adventures we are about to record. David Livingstone is not one of those fortunate persons who have "greatness thrust upon them." All his claims to eminence and celebrity are founded on his own personal exertions. He was born of poor parents in a little Scottish village called Blantyre. His career of active life was commenced in a cotton-mill; where, for several years, he performed the laborious duties of a "piecer-boy," and by economizing his resources (which were scanty enough undoubtedly), he contrived to raise a fund sufficient to defray his expenses at a school in Glasgow. During the summer months he was almost constantly employed in the

factory, but his frugal habits enabled him to devote his winters to intellectual improvement. Thus periodically alternating between cotton-spinning and polite literature, he advanced in mental and mechanical graces, till, in 1840, having laid in a good stock of school learning, he commenced the study of medicine.

But he was not destined to serve his age and generation in the capacity of a doctor of physic; and he preferred (as one of his biographers quaintly observes), to become a doctor of souls. With this object in view, he entered the service of the London Missionary Society, and volunteered to assist in planting the banner of the Cross on the shores of Africa. The Society sent him to the Cape of Good Hope, where he employed himself, for a time, in making astronomical observations. Other duties of far greater importance (as some people may think), were assigned to him. He received instructions from the Society to make his way to the interior, and to take charge of the Kuruman mission, the former incumbent of which, Mr. Moffatt, having been called away to execute some other missionary labor.

Almost as soon as he arrived at his place of destination, Mr. Livingstone became a captive, not to the savage natives, but to the amiable and accomplished daughter of his predecessor, Mr. Moffatt. This young lady, with the rest of Moffatt's family, remained at the station to which Livingstone had been appointed; and as she and David were mutually pleased with each other, a wedding was the result. All accounts represent Livingstone's wife as a lady of the most estimable

character. David himself assures us that she has proved herself a tender and affectionate wife to him, although she received a great part of her early training in a country abounding with lions and other ferocious animals.

In the mean time, Mr. Moffatt, the father-in-law of Livingstone, had fixed his residence at a station not very remote from that of our traveler. The two gentlemen often met together and concerted measures for the civilization of Africa, and the conversion of the whole continent to the Christian faith. Although the reader may consider this as a very stupendous undertaking, it appears that this pair of Christian ministers entertained hopes that their exertions might be equal to the task. Livingstone, especially, promised himself great success in the conversion of the various tribes which inhabited the interior of the continent; and for all the discoveries made by him in Central Africa, we are more indebted, perhaps, to his religious enthusiasm and proselyting zeal, than to any desire on his part for the advancement of geographical science.

Africans of all tribes appear to have a child-like capacity for religious instruction. They are excessively superstitious and entertain a profound reverence for the superior knowledge of the whites. Hence their docility; but it is a circumstance worthy of note that they are instructed most successfully when they are under some kind of control and discipline. For hundreds of years constant attempts have been made to civilize and reclaim these people; but whenever these efforts have

been even partially successful, it has been in places where the whites have stations and colonies, and control the natives by superior power and intellect.

Moffatt, the father of Mrs. Livingstone, has been a resident of Africa since 1821. He has done much to improve the social condition of the Bechuanas, and he is now engaged in translating the Bible into the language of that tribe. While Livingstone was making those journeys, the details of which will appear in the subsequent pages, Moffatt was often ignorant of his whereabouts; and on one occasion especially, not having heard from his son-in-law for several years, he had given him up as lost. Moffatt had made a journey to the interior in search of Livingstone, but did not succeed in finding him. But to the joyful disappointment of his relatives, the Moffatt family, Livingstone returned to the Missionary station, after a protracted absence, during which he had traced the course of the Zambesi river, explored an extensive desert, and visited several African tribes who had never seen a white man before.

Dr. Livingstone is now about forty years of age, but looks ten years older on account of the many hardships he has endured. His health, however, is very good; as it has been ever since he became acclimated in Africa. During the first ten years of his residence on that continent, he suffered many attacks from the local diseases, and has had the "African fever" no less than thirty times. His complexion is almost as dark as that of a negro, in consequence of continued exposure to

TELEGRAPH SIGNALS—CAPETOWN.





the burning suns of that climate. Having been absent about seventeen years from his own country, he has almost lost the power of using the English language with any degree of fluency. On this account, it was not possible for him to be the historian of his own travels ; but he has communicated all the facts collected by him to the writer of this work, who is authorized to prepare them for the press.

CHAPTER IV.

DR. LIVINGSTONE ARRIVES AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE
—DESCRIPTION OF CAPE TOWN AND ITS INHABITANTS
—A MIXED POPULATION—CURIOUS CUSTOM OF THE
MALAYS—DR. LIVINGSTONE STARTS FOR LATTAKOO—
MODE OF TRAVELING—SURPRISING ACCOUNT OF THE
HONEY-BIRD—ITS PRACTICAL JOKES.

DR. LIVINGSTONE commenced his travels by taking passage from London for the Cape of Good Hope, under the auspices of the London Missionary Society, as we have mentioned in a preceding chapter. He arrived at the Cape on the 16th day of August, 1841. Although this locality is very well known by description to the European public, we give Dr. Livingstone's account of it, because it contains several particulars which we have never seen in print. This celebrated Cape, which is situated on the southern extremity of Africa, was discovered in the year 1493 by Diaz, the Portuguese navigator, who called it Cabo Tormentoso, or the Cape of Storms. This name of ill omen was afterward changed by the King of Portugal to the Cape of Good Hope. The situation of this Cape is in latitude $34^{\circ} 22'$ south. The first European settlements at the Cape were made by the Dutch; but the Cape colony was ceded to Great Britain in 1815. The cli-

mate of this part of Africa is variable; in the cold season the country is deluged with rains; in hot weather the ground is parched and nearly all the springs are dried up. In this vicinity the land for the most part is barren; though there are some spots of extraordinary fertility.

Cape Town, the capital of the colony, is situated on Table Bay, in lat. $33^{\circ} 55'$ S., long. $18^{\circ} 21'$ E. It was founded by the Dutch in the year 1650, and has a castle or fortification of considerable strength. The population of this town in 1854, was 25,387. Cape Town has been represented by travelers generally as a neat and orderly place; but Dr. Livingstone's account of it is somewhat different. The streets are not paved; and as it is nobody's business to remove the rubbish which is thrown into them from the dwellings, kitchens, shops, and warehouses, mountains of dirt are allowed to accumulate; until a copious shower produces a "freshet," and washes out the thoroughfare. The odor of the town is like the offense of Hamlet's uncle; that is to say, "it is rank, and smells to heaven." Nevertheless, Cape Town is handsomely laid out; the streets are broad, and intersect each other generally at right angles. But there are few handsome dwelling houses, as almost all the wealthier class of settlers reside in the adjacent country. Most of the buildings are in the Dutch style of architecture—a style which has neither the rich decoration of the Corinthian, nor the neat elegance of the Ionic. The English inhabi-

tants, however, are making some improvements in the general appearance of the place.

The population of Cape Town is a most singular mixture of various nations and tribes, comprising Europeans of all countries, Indians, Chinese, Malays, Caffres, Bechuanas, Hottentots, and Negroes of every variety. Of this well-assorted mass of humanity, the European ingredient predominates; but the Malays constitute a numerous and important part of the population. These people are Mahometans, and are a moral and industrious class; and some of them are in good pecuniary circumstances, dressing splendidly, (according to their peculiarity of taste), and riding about in their own carriages. The Malay costume is distinctive, especially their head-dresses. The men wear a red turban, and over that a conical hat with an expansive brim, which answers the purpose of a parasol. The women wear nothing on their heads but a fillet and a profusion of glittering ornaments. The other part of the female costume is very gaudy, comprising many strongly contrasted colors, and giving one of these ladies an appearance much like that of a paroquet.

The Malays are generally an honest people, but on a certain day in the year they consider themselves at liberty to steal all they can. This thieving saturnalia appears to bear some resemblance to the celebration of Holy Eve in some parts of Europe, except, that instead of confining their depredations to the cabbage-garden, the Malays of the Cape make poultry, pigs, and other live-stock, the principal objects of plunder.

When Dr. Livingstone had remained for a few weeks at this town, he received directions from the Missionary Society, to repair to the missionary station of Mr. Moffatt at Lattakoo, situated about five hundred miles north-easterly from the Cape. The only convenient mode of traveling which presented itself, was in one of those clumsy ox-wagons, which are used by the pedlers or traders to convey merchandise to the interior, for the purpose of supplying the wants of the Boers (Dutch settlers), and several tribes of negroes. The wagons used by these merchants, much resemble some of the country wagons which are seen in the United States. They are roofed with green boughs bent in the form of an arch, over which is placed a layer of Kaffir mats, and these again are surmounted by an awning of stout canvas, intended to be

“Shade from the heat and shelter from the shower.”

But as the wagons are always well-laden with articles of traffic when they leave Cape Town, the passengers are expected to “work their passage,” as the Irishman did on the American canal; that is, by *walking* a great part of the time and assisting to drive the cattle. The length of a Cape wagon is about eighteen feet; the breadth, about three feet and a half. The driver's seat or “box,” is a large chest which occupies the whole breadth of the vehicle in front and affords accommodations for two passengers beside the driver himself.

The sleeping accommodations consist of a sort of cot for each passenger, called a “cardell,” which is a light

but strong frame bored at the sides and ends with holes, through which thongs of leather are passed and interlaced, forming a very good substitute for a sacking-bottom. The cardells are placed in the wagon over the merchandise, a small vacant space being left for the sleepers between the freight of the wagon and the canvas-roof. To the front of the wagon is attached a long pole, called the dissel-boom, at the end of which is fastened the tick-tow, which is a stout line or rope formed of the raw hide of a buffalo. To this rope the yokes of the oxen are attached. Twelve oxen are required to draw a single wagon. The whip with which these animals are driven is a formidable instrument; the stock or handle of which is a bamboo pole more than twenty feet long, intended to reach the foremost oxen of the team when they require "persuasion." The "forestock," or cord of the whip, is about a yard in length, and is formed in the most scientific manner from the skin of an antelope. The wagon-drivers of the Cape pride themselves much on their ability to crack their whips with a loud report, which may sometimes be heard at the distance of a mile.

The oxen appointed to draw these vehicles have a hard service to perform, for the roads are often in a sad condition, and the wheels often sink into the moist soil up to their hubs. Among other obstacles to traveling on African roads, are the labors of the *termites* or white ants, which sometimes throw up hillocks ten feet high and of sufficient extent to cover the track from one side to the other. These mounds, being made

EXPLORING PARTY SURROUNDED BY LIONS.



of clay in damp weather, are afterward baked by the sun as hard as a brick. Owing to the careless management of the Dutch and Hottentot drivers, wagons are often capsized by running on these hillocks.

While on this journey, Dr. Livingstone saw, for the first time, that wonderful animal called the "honey-bird," concerning which some stories are told which are almost too marvelous for belief; but Dr. Livingstone confirms some of the most remarkable particulars related by preceding travelers respecting the eccentric habits of this creature. The honey-bird is about as large as a gray mocking-bird, and is of a similar color. It endeavors to attract the attention of travelers, and to induce them to follow it. When it succeeds thus far, it almost invariably leads the person who follows to a nest of wild bees. While on the route, it keeps up an incessant twittering, as if to assure its follower of success, and often alights on the ground or a bush, and looks back to see if the person is still in pursuit. The native Africans, when conducted by the bird, frequently answer its twittering with a whistle as they proceed, for the purpose of signifying to their little conductor that they are still following it. When the bird arrives at the hollow tree, or other place where the honey is deposited, it hovers over the spot, points at the deposit with its bill, and perches on a neighboring bush or tree to await its share of the plunder.

This is the usual termination of the adventure. But sometimes the honey-bird seems to be actuated by a love of mischief, and then instead of leading the tra-

veler to a bee's nest, it conducts him to the lair of some wild beast, and then flies away with a twittering which sounds a good deal like laughter. Gordon Cumming, "the lion killer," once followed a honey-bird which conducted him to the retreat of a huge crocodile; and, having introduced the traveler to this august presence, the little feathered joker took a hasty leave, evidently much delighted with the success of his trick. The Hottentots are often beguiled in the same manner; and instead of finding the Hyblæan treasure which the bird seems to promise them, they are conducted to the day retreat of some grizzly lion or crouching panther, where they are left by their jocose conductor to make what apologies they please for intruding on the privacy of the surly denizen of the forest.

CHAPTER V.

AFRICAN TRAVEL—ITS HARDSHIPS AND PERILS—DESCRIPTION OF A STRANGE TREE, CALLED SPECK-BOOM—DREARY ASPECT OF THE COUNTRY—ARRIVAL AT CRADDOCK—DESCRIPTION OF THE VILLAGE AND ITS INHABITANTS—THEIR HOSPITALITY AND PARTIALITY TO CLERGYMEN—TIPLING SAINTS—THE JOURNEY—GREAT SUFFERINGS FOR WANT OF WATER—ACCOUNT OF THE SPRING-BOCK.

NEAR the close of a day spent in the hardest kind of traveling on a road which was little better than a quagmire, Dr. Livingstone and his party reached a celebrated defile called *De Bruin's Poort*, which is situated on the high road leading from Grahamstown to Craddock. At this point the difficulties of the route became almost appalling; in fact, this mountain-pass is the terror of wagon-drivers, being perilous at all times, and particularly so after rains and inundations. This part of the road was in its worst possible condition when Mr. Livingstone passed over it. The recent heavy rains had washed away the embankment with which the colonists had patched up the wagon track; and the floods had undermined many masses of rock in the projecting cliffs above, causing the disengaged boulders to fall on

the road, which was so seriously obstructed thereby that the passage of a wagon was almost cut off.

In this state of things, the whole party had to betake themselves to their shovels, pick-axes and levers, in order to clear the track. In the meanwhile the night was advancing, and it soon became evident that the travelers would be compelled to pass the hours of darkness in this gloomy defile, which, in addition to its other inconveniences, is much infested with lions and other dangerous beasts. On the following morning the labor of clearing the road was resumed, and was followed up, without intermission, until a late hour in the afternoon. In this manner ten or twelve hours were consumed before the party could advance half a mile. To the people engaged in the severely toilsome task of removing the large stones, the heat of the noon-day sun was exceedingly oppressive. At length, however, De Bruin's Poort was passed and the travelers entered a level country, thickly studded with dwarfish evergreen bushes, among which the *speck-boom* was most conspicuous. The wood of this singular tree is of a consistency not much more solid than the stalk of Indian corn, and is incombustible even in its dryest state, wherefore it is totally valueless for fuel. This tree is one of the most abundant vegetable productions of southern Africa; it is of little use to man, but it constituted the principal food of the elephants before they were driven by human invasion from this part of the country.

About noon on the succeeding day, the traveling

party reached the bank of the Great Fish River. This river is forded by the wagons, although at some particular times it is swollen to a degree which makes it almost impassable; and so it was at the time to which we now refer. The party was obliged to cut a track through the mud, which had accumulated to the depth of three feet on the shore of the river. When they had effected their laborious passage across the river, the greatest depth of which was about three feet, they ascended a long hill; and after reaching the summit, found themselves in an undulating country producing a dense growth of long grass, above the tops of which rose innumerable habitations of the white ants.

In this locality Dr. Livingstone beheld, for the first time, a herd of that interesting species of antelope called by the Dutch settlers the *spring-bock*, of which we shall give a particular description hereafter. Little variation was observed on the face of the country throughout the whole of this day's march; but about noon on the day following, the route lay through a mountainous region, interspersed with luxuriant pastures, over which roamed innumerable herds of antelopes of various kinds, the whole scene being indescribably picturesque and animated. The birds observed by Dr. Livingstone in this district were the bustard, guinea-fowl, black kozan, partridge, and quail.

On the day following, our travelers passed through a country which was rugged, mountainous, and barren. On the bank of the river, however, there was a strip of verdure, with groves of mimosa, willow and white

thorn; and as it was now the spring time of year, these trees were covered with blossoms. The thorn produces a large yellow flower, which gives the landscape a singularly rich and brilliant appearance. In this part of their march, they followed the course of the Great Fish River, which, on account of its meandering, they were obliged to cross several times. On the shore of this river, at about the distance of three days' journey from Cape Town, is situated a neat little village called Craddock, inhabited chiefly by Dutch and English people, together with some Hottentots, Mozambiques, and Fingoes. The streets of this village are wide, and are shaded on each side by fruit trees, many of which, especially the peach trees, were covered with green fruit. Craddock contains many large and well-built houses, some of which are in the Dutch style and some in the English. The inhabitants of this place appear to have many means and appliances of comfort. Every house has a large garden well stocked with culinary vegetables of the kinds most highly esteemed in England, and a variety of choice fruits, such as apples, pears, oranges, nectarines, grapes, and quinces.

This town seems to be situated on an *oasis*, or fertile spot in the midst of a barren country; for beyond the limits of the village nothing is to be seen in any direction but sterile, rocky hills and mountains, unenlivened by any appearance of vegetation. Dr. Livingstone met with a most hospitable and friendly reception at this place, especially from the Dutch residents; who, being of a highly religious temperament, are ex-

ceedingly well-disposed toward all Christian clergymen. However, it appears that Dutch religion is somewhat like "Dutch courage," admitting of a little alcoholic stimulation; for the Boers of Craddock, with all their pious pretensions, make a free use of the "schnapps," and the Doctor exhibited a little of his clerical Quixotism by treating them to a temperance lecture in return for their hospitable attentions.

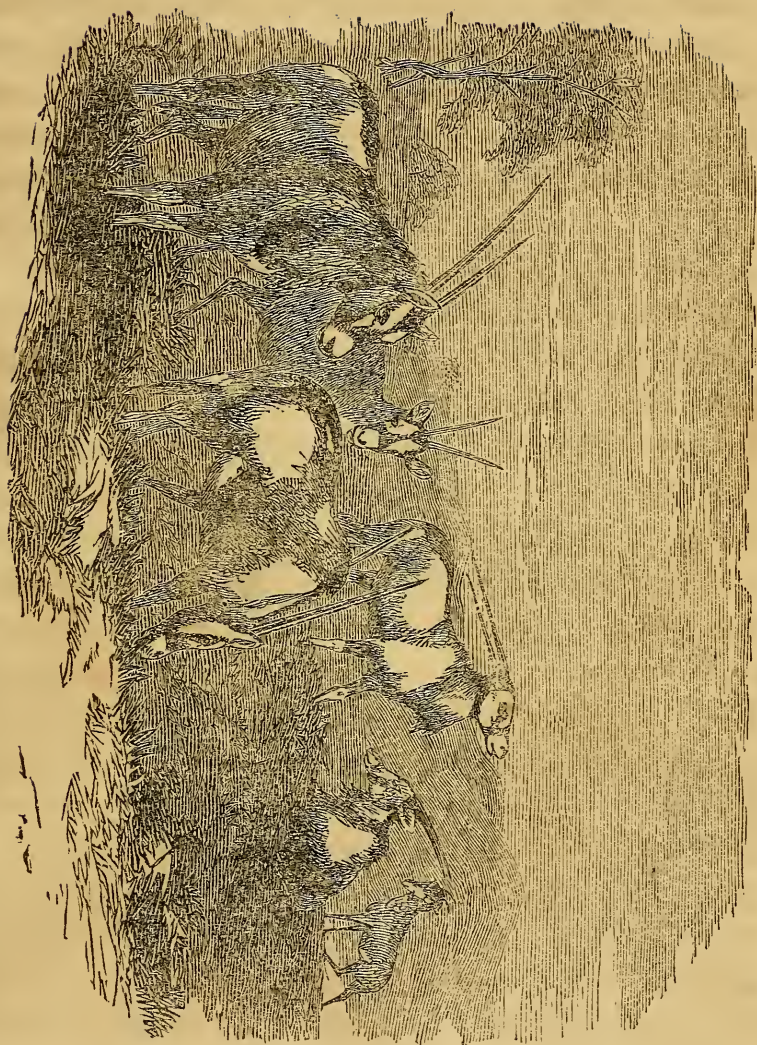
After leaving Craddock, the road improves considerably; the ground becoming more solid, and sufficiently level to make traveling comparatively easy. The route still extended along the bank of the Fish River, sometimes on one side of that stream, and sometimes on the other. Within a distance of forty miles the travelers crossed the river five times, a circumstance which will give the reader some idea of its tortuous course. The aspect of the country still continued barren; nothing but naked, rocky hills were to be seen in the distance, and few trees or shrubs were visible, except in some favored hollows, where the thorny mimosas and dwarf willows could take root.

Nine miles beyond Craddock the road inclines more to the eastward. As scanty as the herbage is on the surrounding plains, the whole ground is covered with herds of grazing animals, consisting of several varieties of antelopes, gnus, and zebras. In this part of their journey, the travelers suffered excessively for the want of water, as they had now left Fish River on their left, and not a spring, brook, rivulet, or any other body of water could be found. The heat in the mean time was

overpowering. In the afternoon they came to a mud-puddle, the contents of which were almost of the consistency of hasty-pudding, but black and fetid, and so much heated by the rays of the sun, that the lips of the party were actually scalded when they attempted to quench their torturing thirst at this unsavory pool. However, their necessity compelled them to drink the foul semifluid, every drop of which was greedily sucked up by the men and oxen.

In this part of the country there are many Dutch settlers, or Boers, living in solitary huts at a great distance from each other, and subsisting chiefly on the flesh of that kind of antelope called by them the spring-buck, which they shoot or take in pitfalls. The spring-buck is so named by the Dutch colonists on account of the extraordinary leaps which it makes when pursued. When chased by dogs, they will bound to a height of twelve feet perpendicular, and clear a corresponding length of ground at every leap. While making these springs, their appearance is almost etherial; the long white hair on their backs and necks flowing out and making it seem as if the animal were actually floating in the air. When a herd of these antelopes crosses a road which has been traveled by men and wagons, every one of them clears the whole breadth of the way at a single leap; for they have learned to be suspicious of man, and to fear every thing which indicates his presence. They are so shy, that it is impossible for the hunters to approach them near enough to obtain a shot without some kind of stratagem. The Boers gen-

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erally conceal themselves, gun in hand, behind a tree, while their Hottentot servants, with a good deal of maneuvering, drive the spring-bocks gradually within reach of the ambuscade. The number of these antelopes in a single herd is sometimes beyond all computation. The whole country for many miles is frequently thronged with them, affording an inexhaustible supply of food to the inhabitants.

CHAPTER VI.

A FLIGHT OF LOCUSTS SEEN—A PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF THIS CELEBRATED INSECT—ITS DEVASTATIONS ITS ORIGIN, HABITS, &C. — HOW LOCUSTS ARE COOKED—A SPRING-BOCK SHOT—SUNDRY CLAIMANTS FOR THE CARCASS — SUN-STROKES — ARRIVAL AT COLESBERG—DESCRIPTION OF THE TOWN—TEMPERANCE DISCIPLINE—DUCKING HOTTENTOTS—DESCRIPTION OF THE GEMSBOCK—EXCITING SPECTACLE—TERRIFIC COMBAT BETWEEN AN ANTELOPE AND A LION.

ON the 20th of March Dr. Livingstone saw, for the first time, one of those prodigious clouds of locusts, concerning which so much has been written by travelers. The air was literally darkened by this immense mass of animal life, which seemed to extend from the zenith to the horizon on every side. Dr. Livingstone remarks that it is worth a journey to Africa to witness such an astonishing sight. The following interesting account of the African locust is furnished by our traveler as the result of his own observation.

The locust of this country is nearly four inches in length and one inch in diameter. The head very much resembles that of a sheep, having two protuberances

which are surprisingly like the horns of a goat. While feeding on herbage this insect makes a champing noise, much like that produced by some grazing quadrupeds of a large size. The hinder part of the body is armed with a hard bony substance, with which the creature bores into the ground, for the purpose of depositing its eggs. Of all animals on the face of the earth, this is the most voracious; it devours grass, grain, the leaves of trees, and every other vegetable production, with insatiable avidity. A flight of locusts is divided into numerous bands or battalions, each of which is said to have a king or general; and the movements of the whole body are conducted in the most orderly manner. Locusts can fly only in dry weather; the least rain compels them to alight. As soon as the leader touches the ground, all of his army follow his example; and then the whole surface of the earth is covered with them, perhaps for many miles. At such times they devour every spear of grass and stalk of grain, every leaf and sprig from shrubs and trees, and sometimes the bark itself. They dig in the ground, and consume even the roots of herbs and plants; and when their devastations are finished, the whole country looks like it had been parched with fire, scarcely any signs of vegetation being left, where but a few hours before nature was robed in all her luxuriance of verdure and floral beauty.

These destructive insects are produced from eggs, many millions of which are annually deposited in the earth by the females of the species. When the eggs are hatched by the warmth of the sun, the locusts

make their first appearance in the form of small worms of a light brown color, which grow rapidly, and soon undergo a transformation, becoming an insect with four wings and six legs. Locusts are considered as very good food by the natives of Africa. They are thrown alive into boiling oil, and when sufficiently cooked in this way, they are taken out by the negroes and greedily devoured. Dr. Livingstone tasted them, and avers that, in flavor, they very much resemble hard-boiled eggs. They are said, moreover, to be very nutritious and wholesome, as well as palatable, though few Europeans are disposed to indulge themselves in the use of this gastronomic luxury.

Soon after the flight of locusts had passed over, the travelers found themselves near the base of Thebus Mountain, which is remarkable as being the highest peak in this district, and also on account of its regular conical shape, which exactly resembles a sugar loaf with a piece of the top cut off.

At this point Dr. Livingstone, with Mynheer Grechan, the proprietor of the wagon, and several of the Hottentots who accompanied the travelers, approached a grove of mimosa trees near the foot of the mountain, where a number of spring-bocks were feeding, their object being to shoot one of those animals in order to obtain a supply of fresh meat. With some difficulty, they succeeded in terminating the mortal career of a fine antelope, but no sooner was the animal stretched lifeless on the ground, than our traveling party were surprised to find their claims to the carcass disputed. The crows,

vultures, and jackals, which appeared in vast numbers, were emboldened by hunger to such a degree, that they seemed disposed to fight for the body of the slaughtered beast; and it was necessary to kill a great number of them before the others could be driven away.

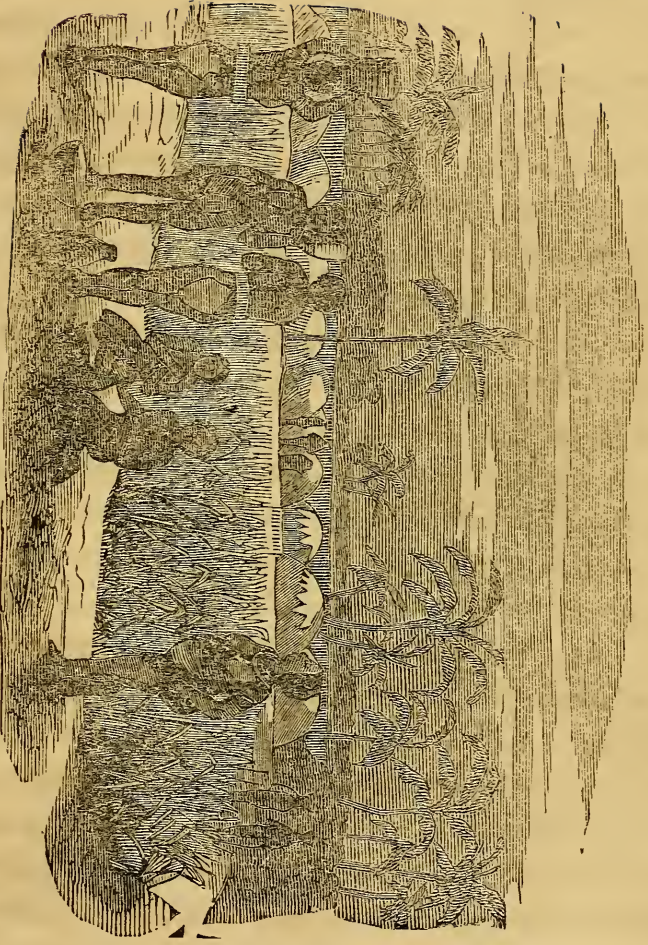
During this day's march the sun was so powerful, that the faces of the travelers were scorched as if by the action of fire. The excessive power of the sun in this climate, is a source of great inconvenience and danger to travelers. Sun-strokes are very frequent, and are often attended with fatal consequences. Many travelers have fallen victims to this terrible calamity.

On the morning of the 22nd the travelers arrived at Colesberg, a village inhabited chiefly by Dutch Boers, which takes its name from a lofty table mountain, near which it is situated. The position of the town is in the midst of some rocky hills, consisting of huge stones piled up in an artificial-like manner, so as to resemble a wall built by the hands of man. The situation of Colesberg seems to have been chosen by its founder, chiefly on account of a copious fountain of excellent water which springs from one of the rocky hills above the level of the town.

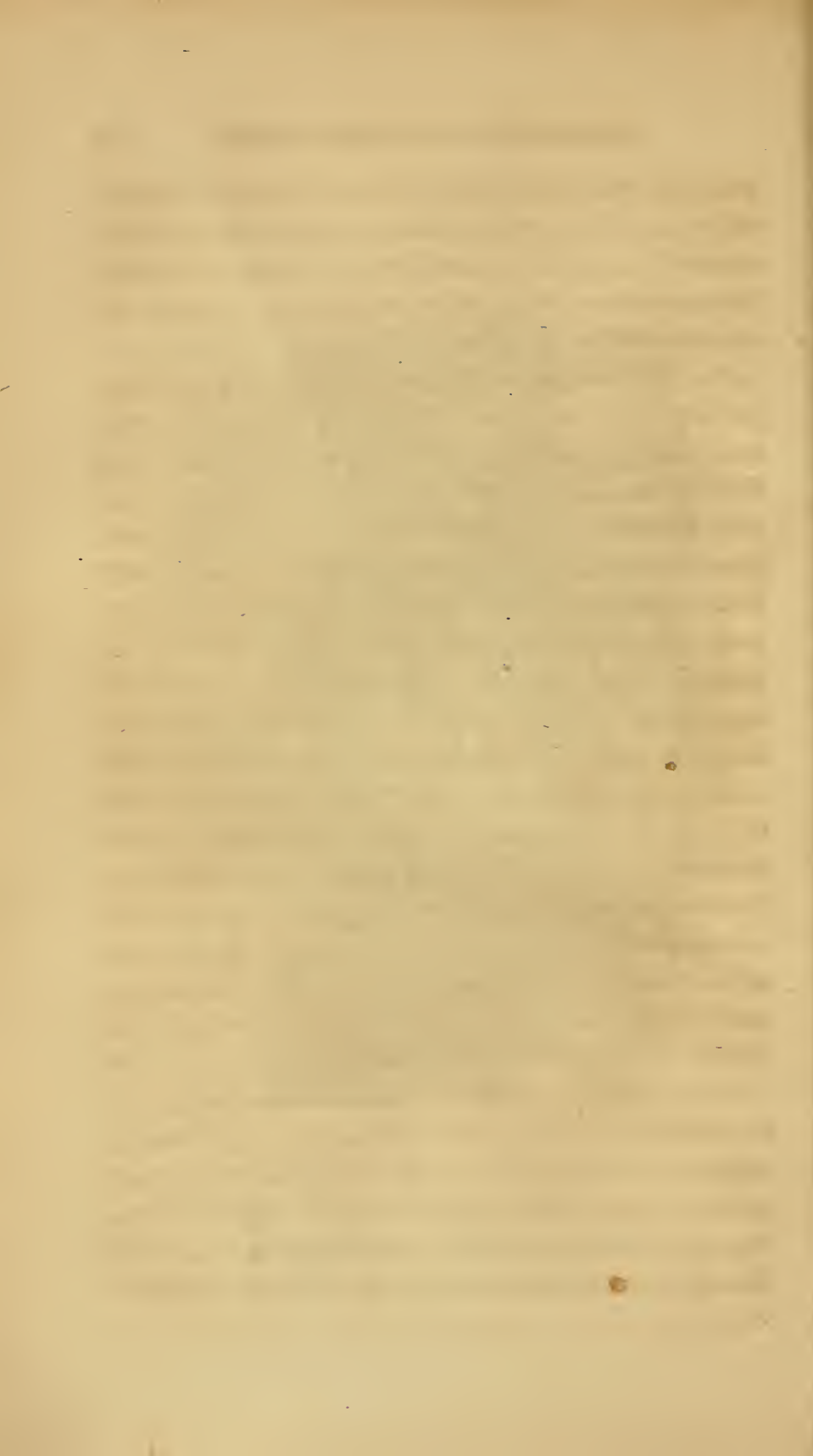
When, on the succeeding morning, the party had prepared, as they thought, to leave Colesberg, much vexation was occasioned by the circumstance that all of their Hottentot assistants had made themselves dead drunk. These faithful servitors had procured a good supply of "schnapps" from a store in the village, and as very few Hottentots are proof against the allure-

ments of "tiger's milk," (as they facetiously term any kind of ardent spirits), the whole crew had been holding a grand bacchanalian jollification all night. Mynheer Grechen, the wagon-master, engaged several negroes residing at Colesberg to carry the intoxicated rascals to the fountain, where they were plentifully drenched with cold water, which was poured on their faces by buckets-full; and this treatment resolutely persevered in for an hour, restored them to the use of their senses, and put them in good traveling order. Dr. Livingstone then attempted to lecture them on the impropriety of their behavior; but one of them, who bore the name of Keeber, deprecatingly remarked, "Nein, nein, boss; no downy and preachy both in one day;" in fact, the practical temperance lecture they had received at the fountain, seemed likely to make a greater impression on them than fifty eloquent orations on teetotalism, though Mr. Gough himself were the orator.

While at Colesberg, where Dr. Livingstone passed a whole day and night to obtain that rest and refreshment which he so much needed, he remarked that the swarms of flies actually blackened the walls of the dwelling-houses and filled the air so densely that it was almost impossible to breathe without inhaling some of these insects. Flies, by the way, are to be ranked among the numerous afflictions to which the inhabitants of southern Africa are liable. They intrude into every apartment, and are particularly troublesome when the settlers are at their meals. On these occasions several Hottentots or other servants are in attendance, armed



BAYEYE VILLAGE.



with long fans or fly-flaps, made of ostrich feathers, which must be kept in constant motion to prevent the nauseous insects from settling on every dish and drowning themselves by scores in every bowl of milk or cup of coffee.

The Hottentot servants attached to Mr. Livingstone's party being now thoroughly sobered, the work of "in-spanning," or yoking-up the oxen, was soon completed, and our travelers proceeded on their toilsome route. Two hours after they left Colesberg it was their fortune to witness a most surprising combat between a full grown lion and a buck antelope of the variety called *gemsbock*. By the way, this antelope is one of the great animal curiosities of those regions. Its size is about equal to that of the ass. Its form is robust, square and compactly built. It has a noble bearing, expressive of its undaunted courage. The head and some parts of the body are ornamented by nature with black stripes or bands disposed in a somewhat regular and apparently fanciful manner. But the most striking peculiarity of this creature is the shape of its horns. These weapons are as straight as a pikestaff, nearly a yard in length, and as sharp as a sword. In combat the *gemsbock* or oryx is more than a match for the lion.

On the occasion to which we now have reference, Dr. Livingstone and his party had just emerged from a narrow defile between two rocky hills, when they heard an angry growl, which they knew to be that of the "monarch of the forest." At the distance of not more than forty yards in advance of them, a fine *gemsbock* stood at bay, while a huge tawny lion was crouched on

a rocky platform, above the level of the plain, evidently meditating an attack on the antelope. Only a space of about twenty feet separated the two animals. The lion appeared to be animated with the greatest fury; the gemsbock was apparently calm and resolute, presenting his well fortified head to the enemy. The lion cautiously changed his position, descended to the plain and made a circuit, obviously for the purpose of attacking the gemsbock in the rear; but the latter was on the alert, and still turned his head toward his antagonist. This maneuvering lasted for half an hour, when it appeared to the observers that the gemsbock used a stratagem to induce the lion to make his assault. The flank of the antelope was, for a moment, presented to his fierce assailant. As quick as lightning the lion made a spring, but while he was yet in the air, the gemsbock turned his head, bending his neck so as to present one of his spear-like horns at the lion's breast. A terrible laceration was the consequence; the lion fell back on his haunches, and showed a ghastly wound in the lower part of his neck. He uttered a howl of rage and anguish and backed off to the distance of fifty feet, seeming half disposed to give up the contest. But hunger, fury or revenge once more impelled him forward. His second assault was more furious and headlong; he rushed at the gemsbock and attempted to leap over the formidable horns in order to alight on his back. The gemsbock, still standing on the defensive, elevated his head, speared the lion in the side, and inflicted what the spectators believed to be a mortal wound, as the horn penetrated to the depth of six or eight inches. Again the lion re-

treated, groaning and limping in a manner which showed that he had been severely hurt; but he soon collected all his energies for another attack. At the instant of collision, the gemsbock presented a horn so as to strike the lion immediately between his two fore-legs; and so forceful was the stroke, that the whole length of the horn was buried in the lion's body. For nearly a minute the two beasts stood motionless; then the gemsbock, slowly backing, withdrew his horn, and the lion tottered and fell on his side, his limbs quivering in the agonies of death. The victor made a triumphant flourish of his heels and trotted off, apparently without having received the least injury in the conflict.

Dr. Livingstone beheld this fight with unspeakable astonishment; he had always understood that no other beast could successfully contend with the African lion, and nothing but the evidence of his own senses could have made him believe that a grazing quadruped, which generally exhibits the most peaceful temper, could have triumphed in an encounter with a creature whose prowess and ferocity are supposed to be unrivaled in the whole range of animated nature. The Hottentot attendants assured the Doctor, however, that they had witnessed similar combats before, and that they generally terminated in the same manner.

The gemsbock, oryx, or straight-horned antelope, is seldom seen except in those parts of Africa which are thinly inhabited. Notwithstanding its courage, shown in the resistance of predatory animals, it is very shy of the human species, and quickly leaves any neighborhood where man has fixed his habitation.

CHAPTER VII.

AN OSTRICH HUNT—ANECDOTES OF THE OSTRICH—ITS PARENTAL AFFECTION—HOW TO COOK OSTRICH EGGS—A VEGETABLE CURIOSITY—THE WATER ROOT—ITS GREAT USEFULNESS—ARRIVAL AT ORANGE RIVER—AN AFRICAN PARADISE—THE GRISQUES OR BASTARDS.

ON the 25th the travelers overtook a family of ostriches, consisting of the cock, hen and eight "chicks," the latter being nearly as large as full-grown geese. The Dutchman who owned the wagon insisted on giving chase, as he had been commissioned by some gentlemen at Cape Town to catch two or three of the young birds if possible, the object being to try if they could be domesticated. The old ostriches, in this instance, proved that they are not as deficient in natural affection as their slanderers pretend. The cock and hen both exposed themselves to the hazard of being taken in order to secure the escape of their offspring. The male ostrich attempted to lead the chase in another direction, to afford the hen an opportunity to make off with the chicks. After a long pursuit by the Hottentots and dogs, four of the young ostriches were captured.

Many ostrich nests were discovered on this day's march. The eggs of this bird are highly valued by the

Hottentots as an article of food. The mode of cooking them is to break a small hole in the top, stir the white and yolk together with a stick, and then set the egg in an upright position on the fire to roast. The shells of these eggs are used by the natives for water-flasks and drinking cups, some of them being large enough to hold a quart of liquid.

Dr. Livingstone now found that he had been under a misapprehension in relation to the manner in which the eggs of this bird are hatched. It is commonly believed in Europe that the ostrich plants its eggs in the sand, and leaves them, without any further care or solicitude, to be hatched or vivified by the rays of the sun. This is a great error. Our traveler saw the ostriches, both male and female, performing the duty of incubation, and relieving each other alternately. No bird could show more tenderness for its young; and so much does the ostrich dread depredations on its nest, that if any person passes within view of its abode it will either remove the eggs or break them.

During a great part of the day, the travelers were obliged to pass over ground which was almost as hot as a stove, and water continued distressingly scarce. It would have been impossible to continue the journey, had not bountiful Nature provided a substitute for water in a plant which grows abundantly in this region, and which is one of the greatest wonders of the vegetable kingdom. This plant is called the water-root; it is a large bladder-shaped bulb, varying from six to ten inches in diameter. It is covered by a thin film or skin, of a

dark brown color, within which there is a pulp containing a considerable quantity of juice quite as tasteless as water itself, but equally refreshing to the thirsty traveler. Thousands of travelers have had occasion to bless the kind Providence which has placed this plant where it appears to be indispensable; for, without it, this region would be uninhabitable. But a few small leaves of the water-root can be seen above ground; the bulb which contains the fluid is concealed under the sun-parched earth, and must be obtained by digging. The leaves are distinguished by small black spots, and are well known to all the natives of the country; but a stranger might perish for want of liquid refreshment without suspecting that a grateful draught was concealed in the earth, under his feet.

On the 26th, the guides indicated a route which was directly northward. The wagon, with its long team of oxen, (six pairs,) lumbered along over the heated sand, which now covered the whole face of the country. Large troops of gnus and spring-bocks were seen in every direction, feeding on the few herbs which made their appearance above the arid surface of the ground. Troops of jackals and hyenas were also frequently observed at a distance.

On the following morning, after a march of four hours through a dreary and uninhabited country, the travelers arrived at the bank of Orange river, which is regarded as the most important river in southern Africa. Its length is estimated at one thousand miles. Its sources are in the northern parts of the continent, among the

Vitbergen mountains, in about 28° north latitude. It flows south-westerly until it unites with Vaal river, when it takes a westward course to the Atlantic, into which it falls about five hundred miles to the north of the Cape of Good Hope. Although this river is large (about 300 yards broad), and apparently deep, the guides assured the travelers that it was fordable. With some difficulty, on account of the roughness of the bed of the stream, the wagon got over to the opposite bank; where a remarkable and most agreeable change in the appearance of the country was observed. For several days the travelers had pursued their weary course over tracts of naked sand, with scarcely a shrub, bush, or weed of any description to relieve the dreary uniformity of the scene; and nothing to shelter them from the intense heat of the sun, which literally scorched and burned every part of their bodies which was exposed to its influence. But as soon as they crossed the river, they found themselves in a fertile region, well wooded and watered, and covered with a rich growth of grasses and other vegetable productions in great variety. The whole bank of the river was fringed with groves of weeping willows, and the adjacent plains were covered with a verdant carpet ornamented with flowers of every hue, which delighted the eye and emitted the most grateful perfume. To add another charm to the loveliness of the scene, birds of gorgeous plumage perched on every bough and bush, and made the air resound with their melody.

The change experienced by the travelers on crossing

Orange river, was like a transition from purgatory to paradise. Many of the plants growing in this part of Africa, are of an aromatic nature, and after a shower of rain they diffuse an odor so rich and balmy, that a feeling almost like the excitement of intoxication is experienced by the traveler. The prospect was bounded on every side by mountain ranges, the bases of which were concealed from view by narrow forests of mimosas.

About ten miles north of Orange river, the traveling party arrived at a "salt pan." This was a wide but shallow excavation in the earth, made by the hand of Nature, the sides of which gently sloped down to a level space in the centre, which was covered by a layer of salt several inches in depth. Salt pans of this description are very common in Africa. During heavy rains, they are filled with water, and when the dry season succeeds, the water is evaporated by the sun, and a saline deposit remains in the basin. Salt pans are much resorted to by antelopes, zebras, giraffes, ostriches, and other animals, all of which, except carnivorous ones, are very fond of salt.

At this point, Dr. Livingstone and his party met with a troop of native Africans, of the tribe called Griquas, or Bastards. Their deportment was very ferocious, and our travelers had some reason to apprehend an attack, as many of this tribe are little better than robbers. The Griquas inhabit a tract of country which extends about one hundred and fifty miles along the northern branch of the Orange river, from a village called Rema to their capital town, which is named

OSTRICH RACING.



Griquastadt or Bastardtown, a title to which they attach nothing discreditable. The name of their chief or king, is Waterboer. In personal peculiarities, they very much resemble the Hottentots, and are probably of the same family.

The party of Griquas now encountered by Dr. Livingstone, were accompanied by several naked Bushmen, who had been captured in their childhood, and were retained as servants or slaves. These unfortunate creatures seemed to be treated very harshly by their Griques masters, and fared worse, no doubt, than the negro slaves of the United States.

There is another tribe of Griquas or Bastards, governed by a chief called Adam Kook. These inhabit a fertile and delightful district to the eastward of the territory occupied by the tribe just spoken of. The name of their capital town is Philopolis. This tribe of Griquas has been partially civilized by intercourse with the whites. Their country affords abundance of fine pastures, and is excellent for farming purposes. They raise large flocks of sheep and goats, and cultivate their land successfully. This tribe is under the protection of the British government. Most of them have embraced the Christian faith. They dress very much in the European style; the men wearing "roundabouts" or monkey-jackets, waistcoats and pantaloons, sometimes made of coarse English cloth, and sometimes of the dressed skins of the antelope. When they wish to shine out with unusual splendor, on holiday occasions, they wear cotton shirts or turbans, and colored handker-

chiefs on their heads. The women wear bodices or corsets, which fit close to their waists, and colored petticoats of British material, which reach down to their ankles.

Their houses are of a conical shape, consisting of a framework made of branches of trees stuck in the ground, so as to form a circle of about ten feet diameter, the tops being lashed together so as to make an arch or dome, which is roofed with mats made of reeds. These houses are easily removed from one place to another, and the whole material of a house is so light that it may be transported on the back of a single ox.

CHAPTER VIII.

WORTHLESS CHARACTER OF THE AFRICAN TRIBES NEAR ORANGE RIVER—THEIR LYING AND BEGGING PROPENSITIES—DESCRIPTION OF THE “WAIT-A-BIT” THORN—WILD DOGS—LOTS OF LIONS—MISTAKES CONCERNING THEM—WONDERFUL OPTICAL ILLUSIONS—ABUNDANCE OF ANIMALS—WILD BOARS—ONE OF THEM SHOT—DR. LIVINGSTONE’S DANGEROUS BED-FELLOW.

ALL the African tribes who inhabit the country bordering on the Orange River, are pretty much of the same character. Laziness and gluttony are their most conspicuous traits, and nothing but absolute force would compel them to engage in any regular employment. They go on hunting expeditions, however, but even these are conducted in an indolent manner; the greater part of the time being expended by the hunters in sleeping and feasting, and they are often absent for three or four months at a time, without doing much execution. The two arts in which they chiefly excel are begging and lying. Of all beggars they are the most shameless and importunate; it is no uncommon thing for them to petition for the clothes on a man’s back, especially his shirt or pantaloons, for which garments they have a particular fancy.

Having traveled about ten miles further, our travelers reached a settlement of Bushmen; who all fled, as is customary with this tribe, on the approach of strangers. Concerning the Bushmen many extravagant tales have been told; they have occasionally been represented as little superior to ourang-outangs; and, in fact, they are most degraded specimens of human nature. They are not provided with tails however, as some travelers in Africa have reported. There was a very good opportunity to ascertain this fact, as they made their retreat when our travelers came near their village. Dr. Livingstone examined their deserted houses or huts; they were about four feet in height, and each of them six or eight feet in diameter. They were constructed of limbs of trees, and looked more like the nests of some kind of large birds than the abodes of human beings. Each hut contained a few domestic utensils made of ostrich eggs or the shells of land-tortoises. Almost all the vessels contained water, and were placed on the ground, inside of the huts.

As the travelers left Orange River at a distance behind them, the face of the country began to change again for the worse. The luxurious vegetation which characterizes the land in the immediate neighborhood of that glorious river began to disappear, and the most common plant which now presented itself was a species of thorn of a very troublesome nature. The prickles of this bush are barbed, and when they insinuate themselves into your clothes or flesh, it costs

some pains and delay to disengage yourself from their grip. Hence they are humorously called by the Dutch Boers—*vyacht um bige*, or “wait-a-bit” thorns, as they seem to persuade you to tarry awhile in their company; and if you tear yourself away from their sociable solicitations, they are apt to retain a piece of your shirt or pantaloons, as a keepsake. This thorn is a variety of the *mimosas* species; the bushes vary in height from two to six feet.

Near the close of the day, on the 28th, the travelers observed six wild dogs hunting a “wilde-beest,” or brindled gnu, on their own account. The gnu betook himself to a pool of water, into which the dogs seemed unwilling to follow him, but stood on the bank apparently with the intention of waiting for their expected prey to come on land. But the wagon-party, wishing to secure the spoils of the gnu for themselves, fired at the dogs, killed one of them and wounded another, when the remainder of them beat a hasty retreat. The gnu was afterward shot and converted to butcher’s meat, the wild dogs standing at a distance and looking on with evident dissatisfaction.

These wild dogs, or “wilde honden,” as the Dutch Boers call them, abound in all the southern regions of Africa. They are seen in parties, varying in number from ten or a dozen to sixty or eighty. They maintain themselves by hunting antelopes and other animals, which they are able to run down or overpower. Their mode of attack is much like that of wolves; as soon as the object of their chase is tired out and stands

at bay, he is dragged to the ground and immediately torn to pieces. They never attack any of the human species, but do not appear to be much afraid of men, at whose approach they retire slowly, often looking back, as if they were half resolved to stand their ground and make some resistance. They commit terrible devastations among the flocks of the pastoral Dutch Boers, killing ten times more than they can possibly devour. It is commonly believed that wild dogs never bark, but these animals utter a sound which is as much like barking as Italian singing is like vocal music. They make other noises, too, which are very unusual among animals of the canine species; sometimes they chatter like monkeys, and sometimes they utter a cry which is almost as melodious as the notes of the mocking-bird.

On the 29th and 30th, the road lay through a desolate country covered with a thick growth of parched grass, but destitute of water. The woods which skirted the bases of the mountains, at some distance from the route of our travelers, were well stocked with lions, which were often seen to emerge from the thickets, and look around as if in search of their prey. Several of them were often seen together, a circumstance which seems to contradict the report that the lion is a solitary animal. As many as five of them often hunt in company; and our readers may be surprised to hear that these beasts are regarded with very little terror, either by the native Africans or the Dutch settlers. They are dreaded chiefly on account of the

destruction which they make among the cattle. The character and habits of the lion are much misunderstood in Europe and America, as we shall have occasion to demonstrate in a subsequent part of this narrative.

In the hottest part of the day, Dr. Livingstone observed that there was always a *mirage* in this region, the effects of which are very bewildering to travelers. Among other curious appearances produced by this optical illusion, it was observed that all objects at a distance seemed to be suspended in the air. The wayfarer is constantly deluded, likewise, by the appearance of pools of water where none exist. Moreover, the animals which are grazing on the plains, a few miles off, are magnified to a gigantic size. Dr. Livingstone judged that these illusions are produced by misty exhalations. However, they always take place when the heat of the sun is most powerful, and in places where the earth is apparently destitute of moisture.

The animal productions of southern Africa are surprisingly numerous, comprising many species and varieties of beasts, birds, reptiles, and insects, some of which have never been mentioned in any natural history. On the second day of April, the travelers fell in with vast herds and flocks of different kinds of beasts, such as antelopes of many varieties, giraffes, gnus, zebras, jackals, and hyenas; and toward night they encountered a troop of wild hogs, among which were several boars of a ferocious appearance, having tusks projecting from their mouths to the length of five or

six inches. One of these was shot by the Dutch proprietor of the wagon, and the flesh proved to be excellent food.

On the night of the third of April, Dr. Livingstone made a narrow escape with his life. As the wagon was crowded and close, he caused his mattress to be spread on a level rock, by the side of which a fire had been made in the afternoon for the purpose of boiling the tea-kettle. Frequently, during the night, the Doctor was awakened by a noise which he supposed to be produced by a mouse under his bed; but as soon as the bedding was removed, in the morning, a large serpent, of the adder species, was found under the pillow. The bite of this serpent is almost invariably fatal.

BLACK-MANED LION.





CHAPTER IX.

A CHAPTER ON AFRICAN LIONS—MISTAKES CONCERNING THESE ANIMALS CORRECTED—THEIR COURAGE CALLED IN QUESTION—THEIR HABITS AND PECULIARITIES—THEIR VOCAL MUSIC—WHEN THEY ARE MOST DANGEROUS—HOW THEY MAY BE FRIGHTENED AND PUT TO FLIGHT—DR. LIVINGSTONE'S EXPERIENCE WITH LIONS.

WE have promised, several times, to give a better and more truthful account of the lion than any which has hitherto appeared in print. Travelers seem to please themselves by magnifying the courage and generous disposition of this "noble animal." With them, the African lion is the very emblem, embodiment, and *beau ideal* of chivalric bravery and magnanimity. Dr. Livingstone explodes all this romantic enthusiasm of description, by showing that the lion is really a pitiful and pusillanimous brute, except when frenzied by hunger, at which times the natural cowardice of his disposition is not so conspicuous.

The *personal* appearance of the lion is indeed majestic and terrific. In this respect, he is like some military captains, and other individuals of the human species, who, by cultivating a good deal of hair about

their faces, and making frightful gestures and grimaces, hope to impress the spectators with extravagant notions of their valor. The lion feels that he is well armed—as indeed he is—for no beast is better provided by nature with offensive and defensive weapons. He seems to flatter himself that no living creature can withstand him, and presuming on this circumstance, he is insolent and audacious. But when he meets with unexpected resistance, he appears to be astonished and dismayed. On this account, a courageous bull-dog, or any other resolute animal, might probably get the better of him in a fair battle.

However, the strength and agility of the lion qualify him to obtain the mastery over beasts of a far superior size. Though he seldom exceeds four feet in height, he can pull down and tear to pieces the lofty giraffe, who often attains an altitude of eighteen feet, and whose skin is an inch thick. The lion can easily overcome the buffalo, which is the most powerful beast on the African plains, except the elephant and rhinoceros. Nevertheless, a valorous old bull buffalo often repulses “his majesty,” and sometimes gives him such a lesson as might be cautionary to tyrants in general. The lion generally prefers hunting some varieties of the antelope, the zebra and other defenseless animals.

It is a mistake to suppose that lions will not eat any meat which they themselves have not killed. Dr. Livingstone assures us that he has often seen several lions together feasting on the carcass of a beast which the Hottentots or negroes had killed for the sake of its

skin. Not more than two or three families of lions are generally found in one neighborhood. But when there is scarcity of water, occasioned by the drying up of some of the fountains, the lions will always congregate in the neighborhood of those springs which are still open. The family connection between old lions and their offspring often continues after the latter have attained their full growth. Several full grown male lions (brothers probably) may often be seen hunting in company; and they appear to be on strict terms of friendship, dividing the spoils in the most equitable and amicable manner. Dr. Livingstone has seen four lions thus associated. Hence it appears that lions are not as solitary and unsociable as some travelers represent them. The male lion is chiefly distinguished by his mane, which he acquires at the age of three years. At first the mane is of a yellowish or golden hue; when the beast is in the prime of life the mane is black; but it assumes an iron grayish color as the lion advances to a patriarchal age. These venerable old gentlemen are most to be dreaded, for they are as cunning and as apt for "stratagems, villainies, and spoils," as any individuals who have "no music in their souls" possibly could be.

Speaking of music reminds us of the vocal powers of the lion. His voice has immense power and compass, (as the concert people might say), but there is very little melody or variety in his notes. The lion, however, has several distinct utterances. At times his voice is heard in a low, deep moaning sound, which is

several times repeated, and appears to be an expression of pain or uneasiness, probably caused by hunger or sexual appetite. But the most common utterance of the lion is his celebrated roar, which produces a thrill of terror among all the inhabitants of the forest. This roar is repeated five or six times in rapid succession, each roar being louder than the preceding one. Sometimes, from six to a dozen lions roar in concert; and as this music is generally heard in the night and in solitude, where all besides is as still as death, the effect is not to be described. The roaring of the lion has often been compared with thunder; it seems to produce a vibration of the solid ground, and may be heard at an almost incredible distance.

Lions seldom make their appearance in the day time, except when driven from their coverts by hunger. On stormy or rainy nights, they are particularly dangerous; as their natural ferocity seems to be increased by the elemental disturbance. On these occasions, they will sometimes make daring attacks on the human species; and travelers run great risks by continuing their journey on tempestuous nights in any region which is infested by these sanguinary brutes. They are so partial to darkness, that they even shun the moonlight, unless driven out by extreme hunger or thirst. They seldom visit the springs until the moon goes down; or if the moon rises late, they take their draught in the early part of the night. While drinking, they lie down on their bellies and make a noise while lapping up the water, which may be heard at the

distance of a hundred yards. They drink for a long time, frequently pausing to take breath. As their hair is pretty much of the color of darkness, they are hardly to be seen at night, unless the traveler gets a glimpse of their eyes, which glow like balls of fire. When a lion and lioness have a young family, it is very dangerous to approach their retreat, as they are apt enough to "show fight," in such circumstances.

The female of the species is entirely destitute of a mane, but she is more active and ferocious than the male; and the Hottentots, who pretend to a familiar acquaintance with the animal, aver that those lionesses which have never had any young, are far more fierce and bloodthirsty than those which have. On the same respectable authority, it is stated that when a lion has once tasted human flesh, he is ever afterward more likely to attack mankind, and shows a decided preference for this kind of game. But Dr. Livingstone declares that he never saw the lion yet which would make an assault on a man, unless he could take the latter at some disadvantage. After awhile, we shall have to relate an incident of the kind, in which the Doctor himself makes a conspicuous figure, as it was his fortune to come to close quarters with one of these majestic brutes, and he has not yet recovered from the effects of the encounter.

It often happens that a lion puts two or three hundred native Africans to flight; but the cowardly behavior of these people, (who run away as soon as the beast growls at them), encourages the lion to pursue

them, and in such a case, it is "devil take the hindmost;" for the individual who brings up the rear, will, in all likelihood, fall a sacrifice to the lion's fury and his own timidity.

But when a lion is making such a charge, if one man can assume courage enough to face about and confront the monster, giving him a steady look in the eye, in almost every instance the beast will come to a pause, and by advancing three steps toward him with a determined air, or by shaking a "shilalah," at him in an expressive manner, you may compel him to turn tail and make a dignified retreat. Dr. Livingstone often tried this experiment with complete success.

CHAPTER X.

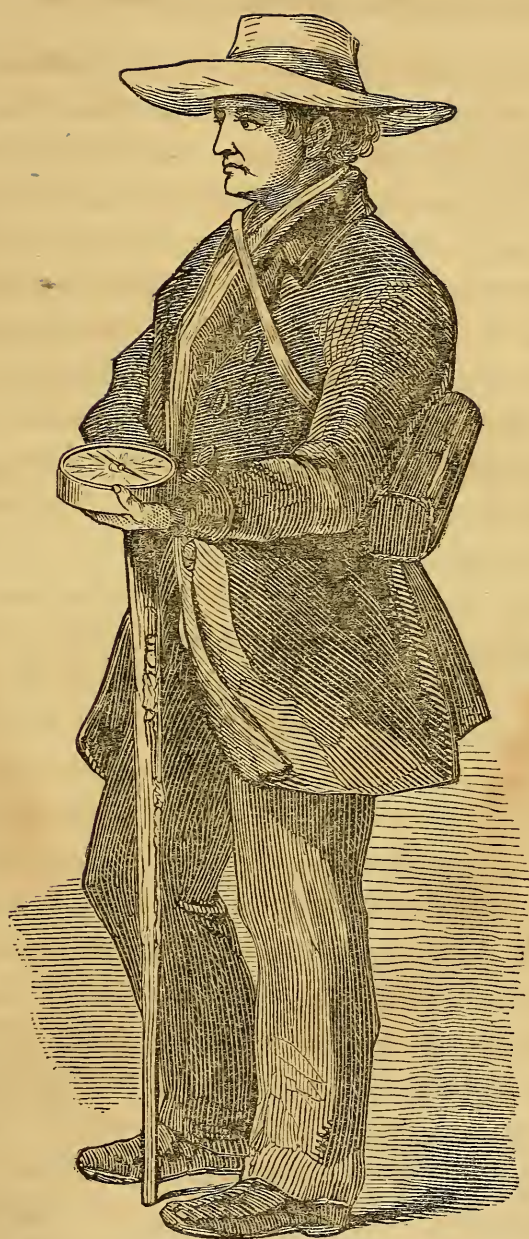
REBELLION OF THE DUTCH BOERS—THE TRAVELERS ARRIVAL AT PHILIPOLIS—THE GRIQUAS—THEIR FONDNESS FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP, AND WHY THEY LIKE IT—THEIR ECCENTRIC STYLE OF DRESSING—THE VALUE OF A SHIRT—BURLESQUE BATTLES OF THE BOERS AND “BASTARDS”—ARRIVAL AT KARUMAN—THE DOCTOR TAKES A WIFE, BUT RESOLVES ON NEW RAMBLES.

AT the time when Dr. Livingstone made this journey, some of the Boers, or Dutch settlers, were in rebellion against the British government, and several skirmishes had taken place between the rebels and the Griquas, who are in alliance with the English. Owing to the unsettled state of the country, the proprietor of the traveling wagon with which Dr. Livingstone traveled, was apprehensive of being overhauled and perhaps robbed by the rebellious Boers; and to avoid them, he determined to deviate from his straight course, and take a safer route, though a more circuitous one, by traveling more to the eastward, toward the junction of Vaal and Orange Rivers, a region which is inhabited by tribes of Africans friendly to the British authorities of Cape Colony.

In pursuance of this route, the travelers arrived, on

the 4th day of April, at Philipolis, the capital of the country inhabited by the Griquas, or Bastards. Here they remained for several days, the wagoner and his Hottentot servants resting and enjoying themselves, and driving a profitable trade with the natives by supplying them with coffee, tea, and English merchandise of various kinds, in exchange for ivory, skins, and other commodities of African production. In the mean time, Dr. Livingstone preached every day to the Griquas, who are professors of Christianity, having been converted by the labors of the missionaries stationed at Philipolis.

These people are rather fond of attending church services, which they would willingly do every day in the week, as it affords them an opportunity to show off their fantastic finery; and it is an occupation much more to their taste than the cultivation of their fields or any other employment which requires bodily exertion. Therefore, the Doctor was always sure of a large audience, though the dresses and decorations of the assemblage often put his gravity to a severe trial. A small wooden building has been erected at this place to answer the purpose of a church or meeting-house. The men and women who attended this place of worship appeared in every variety of costume. Some of the gentlemen wore old frock coats or regimental ones, (obtained from the peddling wagons), without any shirts, vests, or pantaloons. Some had been lucky enough to obtain inexpressibles, but were unprovided with any other garments. Others sported cotton shirts,



REV. DR. DAVID LIVINGSTONE IN HIS
TRAVELING COSTUME.

and were evidently very proud of them, though these constituted their only personal equipments. By-the-way, a shirt of any kind, even one of the plainest style and most homely material, is regarded by the native African as a most luxurious article of apparel; and no Roman emperor could have strutted more pompously in the imperial purple, than a Griqua does when he rejoices in the possession of a second-hand shirt.

The women of this tribe, when they attend church, make a similar display in the picturesque variety of their costumes. With them, however, the main object seems to be to pile as much finery as possible upon their heads, with very little regard to the deficiencies in other quarters. Many of them wear head-dresses of the most grotesque and extravagant patterns, while their other garments are so scanty that the ordinary purposes of decorum are scarcely answered.

Dr. Livingstone learned that the battles between the rebel Dutch Boers and the "Bastards," or African allies of the British, were in the richest style of burlesque. The warlike parties were separated by a distance of three or four miles, but kept up an incessant fire at each other, while herds of antelopes and zebras were quietly grazing on the plains situated between the belligerents. Several of these neutrals were accidentally killed by the stray bullets of each of the opposing armies; and this, perhaps, was all the execution that was done by either party.

After leaving Philipolis, the country traveled by Dr. Livingstone and his party was a "dead level," unre-

lieved by any tree or shrub, except bushes of one particular kind, in height from six to nine feet, with gray leaves and blossoms, and a pungent aromatic perfume. The Doctor had never seen any thing like it, and was unable to designate the species to which this plant belongs. On the 8th of April they arrived at a hot spring, called by the Boers "Kramer's Fonteyn," which throws out a great quantity of water almost hot enough to boil an egg. Two days after, they came within view of the Kamhanni Mountains, a rocky chain of great extent, rising to the left of the route pursued by our travelers.

With the exception of this mountain range, the whole prospect presented nothing but a succession of level plains, covered with rank yellow grass, and studded with the gray-leaved bushes described in a preceding paragraph. All kinds of wild quadrupeds appeared to be scarce in this quarter, but birds were quite numerous. The only wild beasts seen for several days were leopards.

On the 12th of April, Dr. Livingstone and his company arrived at Kuruman, or New Litakoo, the residence of Messrs. Moffatt and Hamilton, who had been stationed at this place by the London Missionary Society. Kuruman is a spot of enchanting beauty, situated in the midst of a wild and desolate country. Several English families reside at this settlement, which contains some pleasant dwelling houses and fine gardens, the ground being fertile and in a good state of cultivation.

Here Dr. Livingstone parted with his traveling companions, and domesticated himself in the family of Mr. Moffatt, whose eldest daughter, Elizabeth, he shortly after espoused. It was no part of the Doctor's intention, however, to remain at Kuruman, as he had already formed a resolution to penetrate much further into the interior of Africa, for the purpose of preaching the gospel where it had never been heard before. His father-in-law, Mr. Moffatt, who was almost as great an enthusiast as the Doctor himself, commended this design; and the two well-meaning gentlemen discussed the possibility of christianizing the whole African continent. While we admit that this was an Utopian project, we must bear in mind that we are indebted to its conception for the most important and extensive explorations ever made in central Africa; and it is doubtful if any thing else, except religious enthusiasm, could have carried a man through all the hardships and dangers which Dr. Livingstone encountered in the progress of his discoveries.

CHAPTER XI.

DR. LIVINGSTONE STARTS ALONE ON A PEDESTRIAN TOUR—
HIS SUFFERINGS—HE HAS AN ATTACK OF AFRICAN
FEVER—HE EXPERIENCES THE PANGS OF STARVATION—
MEETS WITH SOME WANDERING NATIVES—OBTAINS A
SUPPLY OF BROILED LOCUSTS—EATS THEM WITHOUT
GRUMBLING—ARRIVES AT A BECHUANA VILLAGE.

AFTER a few months spent in domestic felicity at Kuruman, Dr. Livingstone commenced the grand enterprise to which reference was made at the close of the last chapter, by starting alone on a route which he intended to pursue in a northeasterly direction, for the purpose of communicating gospel truths to some African tribes who had never been visited by any European, and whose existence was known to the missionaries only by the reports of the wandering natives who occasionally visited the missionary station of Kuruman.

Provided with a small knapsack containing a few portable articles of clothing, and a very small stock of provisions, (for the Doctor did not wish to incommode himself with a heavy burden,) our solitary traveler now set out on foot, with no other guide except a small pocket compass, to direct him through the untraveled wilderness. Many prayers were offered up by his

friends at Kuruman for his safety and success. Knowing the perils which would attend him on this journey, they scarcely hoped to see him again, but they had reconciled themselves to the probability that he would perish in this undertaking, by reflecting that his self-sacrifice in such a cause would be a glorious and triumphant martyrdom.

Dr. Livingstone left Kuruman on the 17th day of July. For two days he journeyed over plains covered with deep sand, which made traveling on foot decidedly laborious. The stock of provisions he carried with him was exhausted on the evening of the second day, after which he had recourse to such edible herbs and roots as the plains of Africa afford, the use of which he had learned during his former travels with the trading-wagon. His knowledge of the water root, which was described in a former part of this narrative, was now the means of preserving his life; for he traveled several days at a time without meeting with any spring, stream, pool or rivulet. At night he usually reposed in a sitting posture, with his head on his knees; and he considered himself particularly fortunate if he could avail himself of the shelter of a bush when he betook himself to repose.

Occasionally he met with a spot covered with grass and other vegetable productions, when he provided himself with such herbs as could be used for food. But on the fourth day of his journey no supplies of this kind could be obtained, and he was obliged to travel through the whole day, over burning sands, with the scorching

sunbeams pouring down on his unprotected head, and without a morsel of food or a drop of water. At night he found himself in a high fever, from which, however, he recovered on the following morning, and although very feeble, he proceeded slowly on his journey.

An hour's walk brought him to a clump of mimosa bushes, where he discovered a party of Africans of the tribe called *Batlapis*, who had halted among these bushes to cook a quantity of locusts, which they had brought with them in sacks made of the skins of antelopes. These savage people had kindled a fire, and were engaged in cooking the insects by sticking them on long wooden skewers and roasting them in the blaze.

The appearance of the Doctor, in his European dress, startled them considerably; and, at first, they seemed half inclined to run away, but Livingstone's courteous gestures reassured them and emboldened them to stand their ground. Their first feelings of alarm having subsided, they began to gather around him, uttering many exclamations which seemed to express the greatest astonishment. Some of them, who seemed to have a keen perception of the ludicrous, almost went into convulsions of merriment at what they considered the oddity of the Doctor's appearance.

But Livingstone himself was in no laughing humor. He made signs to his new colored acquaintances that he desired something to eat; a communication which they readily understood, and all were emulous in their endeavors to supply the traveler with provisions. Several skewers full of roasted locusts were presented to

him; and as his appetite, after so long a fast, was not very squeamish, he took down this African dainty without the least hesitation, and he assures us that he never tasted any thing more delicious. The Batlapis also gave the Doctor a sack full of locusts, already cooked, to provide for his future wants. Our zealous missionary would have gladly given his hospitable friends some religious instruction, but his knowledge of the Bechuana language, (a dialect of which is spoken by this tribe,) was not yet sufficient to enable him to make himself perfectly understood.

Finding that these people were journeying nearly in the same direction which he wished to travel, Dr. Livingstone finally determined to be one of their party, and having communicated his intentions to them, by the language of signs, he found them quite willing to admit him into their company. He traveled with them several days, but being greatly shocked by some of their gross and immoral practices, he took leave of them and pursued the most direct course to Motito, a village of the Bechuanas, where he arrived on the 24th of July.

He found several English and French missionaries stationed at this place. The natives are much superior in intellect and personal appearance to some of the more southern tribes. The Bechuanas are a lively and intelligent race, with good forms and agreeable features. Their eyes and teeth are particularly fine. Although they have short and crisp hair or wool, like negroes in general, their complexion is comparatively light, being not widely different from that of the American Indian.

The Bechuanas are subdivided into several tribes or clans, each tribe having a village of its own, and is governed by an independent king or chief. Their wigwams are in the form of a cone or old-fashioned beehive; the roofs being thatched with long grass. The floors and the walls are plastered, within and without, with a mortar composed of clay and cow-dung. These dwellings have no windows and no aperture except a door about three feet high. Each wigwam is fenced in with a wicker-work hedge, and the whole village is surrounded by a thick fence, composed of wait-a-bit thorns, as a protection against wild beasts.

The men wear a sort of "talma" or skin cloak, called a kaross, which hangs in graceful folds from their shoulders. They have another garment in the form of an apron, called a tsecha, which is likewise made of skin. The soles of their feet are protected by a kind of sandal, made of the thick and tough hide of the cameleopard. Their legs and arms are covered with a profusion of beads and copper ornaments, the latter of which are manufactured by themselves. They wear beads on their necks also, and copper chains, to which are attached their *fetishes*, charms, or talismans, which are believed to be a sure protection from all accidents and ill-luck. One of their magic contrivances is a sort of bone whistle, through which they blow when they consider themselves in any danger; as if to call their tutelary spirits or demons to their assistance. They have another wonderful charm, or oracle rather, which is nothing more than a set of dice of an odd shape,



LEHUMI THE FAITHFUL GUIDE.

which they shake together in their hands and throw on the ground, to determine if any enterprise in which they are about to engage will be fortunate. Every man, likewise, has a snuff-box hung to his neck; these boxes are made of a small gourd, and in shape very much resemble a bottle. Every Bechuana is armed to the teeth whenever he leaves his hut. Their arms consist of a shield, a battle-axe, several assagais, and a knobkerry. The shield is a wooden frame covered with the skin of the cameleopard, which is of a wonderful thickness, and when dried, can scarcely be penetrated by a bullet. The battle-axe is a triangular piece of metal fixed to a handle made of the horn of the rhinoceros. The assagai is a sort of javelin, with which a skillful warrior can kill a man at the distance of one hundred yards.

The women wear a cloak or kaross, and a short petticoat, both made of the skin of the antelope. The quantity of beads which they carry on their arms and necks, for ornament, are really burdensome; but, like most other ladies, they submit to any inconvenience for the sake of following the fashion. Both men and women go bareheaded. They besmear their hair or wool with a composition made of grease and a kind of glittering sand; though, instead of the latter ingredient, some use red clay.

The men follow no business except war and hunting. The women cultivate the fields and gardens. The fruits and vegetables raised by them, are chiefly corn, pumpkins, and watermelons. Grinding the corn, and all

other laborious operations are performed by the women. Some of the tribes keep cattle. Polygamy is permitted among them, and women are objects of merchandise; the price of a wife being ten or twelve head of cattle. Scolds or termagants, however, are quoted at a much lower figure, and one of these is sometimes bartered for a spade, a string of beads, or, in fact, for whatever the purchaser is willing to give.

CHAPTER XII.

DR. LIVINGSTONE'S RECEPTION AT MOTITO—HE STUDIES THE BECHUANA LANGUAGE—STARTS AGAIN ON HIS TRAVELS—ARRIVES AT A MAGNIFICENT FOREST—REMARKABLE BIRDS' NESTS—HE MEETS WITH SOME BECHUANA CATTLE DRIVERS—THEY TELL HIM OF A GREAT LAKE IN THE INTERIOR—HE ARRIVES AT THE LOVELY VALE OF BAKATLA—A COMICAL MONARCH—TOBACCO *vs.* PREACHING.

THE Bechuana village Motito is governed by a chief named Motchuara. He received the Doctor with much kindness, and gave him the use of a hut to lodge in, promising, at the same time, to keep him plentifully supplied with provisions. This chief wished to cultivate the good-will of white men, hoping to establish a trade with them in ivory and ostrich feathers. When he learned that the doctor did not deal in such commodities, his kindness somewhat abated. Livingstone spent two weeks at this village, endeavoring to make himself familiar with the Bechuana language; and in this, with the help of the missionaries at that place, he partly succeeded. The language, by the way, is not very copious, and the doctor soon became proficient enough in the vocabulary to be able to preach to the natives in

their own tongue. As this language is spoken through a great extent of country, he was now prepared to carry on the work of evangelizing the Africans with more effect.

On the morning of the 2nd of August, the Doctor took leave of his friends at Motito, and pursued his route in the same direction (northeastward), which he had formerly traveled after leaving Kuruman. At noon he arrived at an extensive forest, containing some of the finest trees he had seen in Africa. The whole forest was composed of trees of one kind, called the *cameeldorn*, which is much like the English oak in form, having far-spreading branches, and affording a most delightful shade. These trees were not crowded together but arranged in groups, with numerous vacancies between them, so that the forest much resembled one of those charming parks which are attached to the dwellings of the English aristocracy.

On all the trees of this forest, those singular birds called the "social grossbeak" had built their nests. These nests are of a most wonderful construction, each one being as large as a flour barrel, and partitioned off into various apartments, each apartment being occupied by a single pair of birds and their progeny. The grossbeak is about as large as the woodpecker, but in plumage it resembles the green parrot. The nests are composed of dry grass, and look very much like small haystacks perched on the limbs of the trees. The entrance is at the bottom.

The forest was about six miles through. On reach-

ing the edge, the Doctor found himself on a sort of meadow or prairie of great extent, the whole ground being covered with grass and bushes. Herds of springbucks, zebras, and ostriches were generally in view. It was near night when the Doctor arrived at a large pit or well containing fresh water. Here he found some of the herdsmen of a Bechuana chief named Mahura, who had brought some of that chief's cattle to the pit to water them. Livingstone being now able to converse with these people in their own language, made various inquiries respecting the country, and learned, among other things, that there was a large inland lake, situated at a great distance to the westward. The herdsmen told him that the people living near this lake had boats, and mentioned several other particulars concerning them, which made the Doctor suppose that the people designated must be partially civilized.

The lake which the cattle-drivers indicated, was the Lake Ngami, which Dr. Livingstone afterward discovered, and of which a particular account will be given in a subsequent part of this narrative. On the 3rd of August the Doctor journeyed through a sandy country, with occasional green spots and detached bushes. These naked plains, however, are much resorted to by antelopes of different kinds, zebras, and ostriches. Here also the Doctor discovered a skeleton which he ascertained to be that of a rhinoceros. The tracks of this animal were likewise seen in the sand; also the "spoor," or footprints of many lions and elephants. On the following day the face of the country

again changed, and the Doctor traveled twenty or thirty miles through plains which were thickly covered with dwarfish trees of various kinds. Next he passed over five or six miles of meadow land, which brought him to a gorge in the mountain, on emerging from which he entered the great valley of Bakatla. A stream of water as clear as crystal runs through the centre of this valley longitudinally; and, following the course of this stream, Dr. Livingstone arrived at the village of Mabotza, which is the residence of the "high and mighty" Mosielely, King of the Bakatlas. The valley in which this village is situated is one of the most delightful localities in Africa; and Doctor Livingstone afterward chose it for his place of abode. The valley is bounded on all sides by mountains of a grand and imposing appearance, the sides and even the summits of which are covered with a variety of fine trees. The valley itself, likewise, contains a great number of groves, or small forests, composed of the most beautiful trees indigenous to this climate. It has, besides, many fertile fields, which are cultivated by the Bakatla women, and produce corn, pumpkins, watermelons, and a variety of herbs, which are used by the natives for food. Very little attention is paid to the cultivation of the finer kinds of fruits, although the soil and climate are well adapted to the purpose. The people, like African tribes in general, are too lazy to engage extensively in agricultural pursuits, or any other laborious occupation. The men will not work at all, and the



AFRICAN SNAKE TAMER.



women take care to do no more than is absolutely necessary.

King Mosielely, the grand monarch of the Bakatlas, is a comical specimen of royalty. He is a blear-eyed, greasy old negro, very much addicted to snuff-taking, and very much disposed to beg every white man who visits him for a supply of this titilating dust. He was astonished to hear that Dr. Livingstone did not use it, as he seemed to entertain the opinion that snuffing and smoking tobacco were among the civilized arts on which white people pride themselves; and the Doctor evidently sunk himself in his majesty's estimation by pronouncing the use of snuff a filthy and immoral practice. Supposing that this notion was a part of the Doctor's "platform," the royal Mosielely was, for a long time, opposed to having his subjects indoctrinated with the creed and principles of our missionary traveler. In fact, Dr. Livingstone had to make exception in favor of tobacco, before he could obtain a license to preach the true faith to the Bakatlas. This incident will admonish Christian missionaries not to require too many sacrifices from their proselytes.

CHAPTER XIII.

BLACKSMITHING AMONG THE BAKATLAS—THE DOCTOR STARTS FOR BAMANGWATO—A “HARD ROAD TO TRAVEL”—WILD ANIMALS—GUINEA FOWLS—HOW TO COOK THEM IN THE BAKATLA STYLE—THE BUSTARD—STUPENDOUS ANT-HILLS—SINGULAR INSTINCTS AND ASTONISHING PERFORMANCES OF THE WHITE ANTS—POISONOUS MUSHROOMS—ALMOST A FATAL ACCIDENT.

THE Bakatlas, according to Dr. Livingstone's account, have made more progress in the arts than almost any other tribe of Africans. Some of them are quite expert blacksmiths, although the tools and apparatus used by them in this business are rather clumsy and imperfect. They know how to obtain the iron from the ore by a process of smelting which is peculiar to themselves. Their best anvil is a large stone, and their hammers are stones of a smaller size. They use bellows made of skins, the tubes being formed of the straight and tapering horns of the oryx. With such awkward tools as these, they contrive to make some neat and handsome articles, such as knives, needles, assagais, battle-axes, &c. The blacksmiths sit on the ground when they work, and perform the operations of their trade in a very dilatory and indolent manner; in-

deed all labor is performed by these people in a way which shows plainly enough they do not like it. Blacksmiths are held in high estimation by the Bakatlas; they are eligible to every office, as lawyers are in the United States. Blacksmithing in Africa is one of the liberal professions; the prevailing opinion being that none but men of genius or superior ability can excel in this elegant art. The man who can make a good broad-axe in Bakatla ranks higher there than one who can make a splendid oration, or a great poem, does in Europe or America.

From the Bakatla village of Mabotza, Dr. Livingstone proceeded in a northerly direction, steering by the compass, toward Bamangwato. He was conducted on his way by two guides, who had been nominated by King Mosielele. There was not the slightest appearance of a road or path; but the Doctor observed that his colored guides led him in nearly a straight line, a circumstance which inspired him with more confidence in their ability to perform the service they had undertaken. For several miles the route lay through the lovely vale of Bakatla, which is picturesquely variegated with plains covered with rich verdure and forests of most ancient and venerable aspect.

Herds of wild animals of various kinds were seen grazing in this valley. Gnus and zebras were particularly abundant. Among other animals which congregate in this part of the country, are guinea fowls; the woods being literally alive with them. The Doctor's guides killed several of them, and roasted them on

skewers in the off-hand fashion which is common among these people. They think it a waste of time to strip the birds of their feathers before roasting them, as the fire itself performs that operation. Dr. Livingstone represents the flesh of the guinea fowl as a great delicacy, as it is tender and well-flavored. The eggs are equally good.

These birds, even in their wild state, are not high flyers; indeed, they make more use of their legs than their wings. Their speed on the ground is surprising; but when chased for awhile they become fatigued and sit still until they are picked up. There is also an abundance of other kinds of wild fowl in this neighborhood; one of the most valuable of which, for culinary purposes, is the great African bustard, the flesh of which is delicious, and besides, there is a good deal of it; for the bird is of a large size, weighing from fourteen to twenty pounds.

On this journey Dr. Livingstone had an excellent opportunity to observe the wonderful instincts and extraordinary performances of the termites, or African white ants. The mounds raised by these insects are of a prodigious size, often measuring thirty or forty feet in diameter at the base, and from fifteen to twenty feet in height. These gigantic ant-hills are not made by the same process used by insects of the smaller kinds; for the termites, when forming their excavations, do not bring out the sand or clay from the interior and pile it up on the outside of their habitations. They never make their appearance on the outside, but carry

on all their operations within, pushing out the walls in a manner, which, considering their diminutive size, seems to be impossible. They unite in societies, comprising a vast number of individuals, as may be judged from the size of their dwellings.

Sometimes these interesting but destructive insects make their abodes in the trunks of trees or in the beams of houses, working in the most insidious manner, by perforating the timber in every direction, without piercing the surface. Hence, a tree or a piece of wood which appears to be perfectly sound, will often crumble at the slightest touch; and the rapidity with which the work of destruction is often carried on, is almost incredible. A tree eight or ten inches in diameter has often been completely riddled by the termites within a single night; and a substantial wooden building has been made dangerous and almost uninhabitable by them within the space of forty-eight hours.

Dr. Livingstone observed that mushrooms always grow in great abundance near the huge ant-hills just described. He pronounces these mushrooms far superior in size and flavor to any that grow in Europe; however, there is some risk in eating them, as many fungi, similar to them in appearance, are extremely poisonous. One of the guides made a slight mistake by swallowing a fungus which was not of the right kind, and the error would have cost him his life, if the Doctor had not administered an emetic which he fortunately carried with him.

The dwellings of the white ants are often taken pos

session of by colonies of wild bees which make them a place of deposit for their honey. By-the-way, wild honey is one of the most abundant productions of Southern and Central Africa. It is found in such quantities, that the natives in some districts use it constantly for food. They are excessively fond of it, and occasionally lose their lives by using it too freely, as African honey sometimes contains an active poison, which the bees extract from a plant or shrub known to botanists as the *euphorbia candelabrum*. This shrub—it almost deserves to be called a tree—is generally seen on hill-sides, where it makes a graceful and showy appearance. The juice is of a milky whiteness, but of a gummy consistency, and has an acrid and nauseating taste. The natives dip their arrows in this juice, and the slightest wound with those arrows is fatal. The Bechuanas also have a dangerous practice of infusing this vegetable poison in streams and fountains, for the purpose of killing antelopes and other animals which partake of the water. It is remarkable that the flesh of the beasts thus killed may be eaten without any danger; but a still more surprising fact in relation to this poison is, that while it kills some animals instantly, it has not the least effect on others. Many birds suck the juice with entire impunity; and the black rhinoceros eats it greedily and without injury, while the white variety of the same species refuses to touch it: and the natives believe that it would kill him if he did. When honey impregnated with this poison is eaten, it produces a burning sensation in the throat and stomach, which

generally ends in extensive inflammation and sometimes in death. Mr. Moffatt, the father-in-law of Dr. Livingstone, and several other Englishmen, were all poisoned in one day by eating wild honey; but by using timely and appropriate remedies, their lives were preserved, though they were seriously ill for some time afterward.

CHAPTER XIV.

A BUFFALO KILLED—PRODIGIOUS HORNS—GLUTTONY OF THE BAKATLAS—CHARMING SCENERY—A SETTLEMENT OF BABOONS—THEY TAKE OFFENSE AT THE DOCTOR AND TREAT HIM WITH INCIVILITY—A RHINOCEROS SEEN AND WOUNDED—PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF THIS ANIMAL—SEVERAL VARIETIES OF THE SPECIES—FEROCITY OF THE BLACK RHINOCEROS—ITS HABITS AND PECULIARITIES.

ON the 18th of August our traveler and his guide overhauled a fine herd of buffaloes, quietly grazing at the edge of a forest. The size of these animals amazed the Doctor, who had never seen any creatures of the bovine species which could compare with them in magnitude. The guides, who belonged to a tribe noted for their excessively carnivorous propensities, undertook to kill one of the largest bulls of the herd, with the hope of supplying themselves with a stock of fresh meat. They attacked the noble-looking brute with their assagais or javelins, and after a desperate contest, in which they came near being worsted, they succeeded in effecting their object. The size of the slaughtered animal may be estimated from the measurement which the Doctor made of the horns. These formidable

MEAT-TRAP FOR SHOOTING THE HYENA.





weapons he found to be a foot in diameter at the base, and, including all the curvatures, extended to the length of four feet each. These horns curl around the animal's head in a way which gives it a ferocious and terrible aspect. However, the buffalo is a quiet and inoffensive creature, seemingly desirous of avoiding affrays, and never using the effective weapons with which Nature has provided him, except in self-defense.

The Doctor's savage guides could not be prevailed upon to resume their journey, until they had devoured the greater part of the carcass of the buffalo. These people consume a surprising quantity of animal food, when they can obtain it, and they will never abandon a feast of this kind while any thing remains to be eaten. They continued to banquet on the slaughtered beast for three days and nights, almost without intermission, ridiculing the Doctor on account of the moderation of his appetite; although like most gentlemen of the clerical profession, he could do his duty at the board as well as in the pulpit.

The Doctor observes that traveling through Africa is like the journey of human life—the whole route is full of vicissitudes, being a frequent alternation between hideous deserts or sandy wastes, and the most delightful landscapes, blooming with flowers, and clothed in the most luxuriant verdure. On the 20th he passed through a glorious country diversified with hill and dale, and variegated with innumerable streamlets and fountains. Beautiful green hills and majestic mountains, skirted with forests, were seen in the distance.

As they drew near to the mountain range which bounded the prospect on the right, Livingstone discovered that the sides, in some places, were rocky and precipitous, and presented many fissures, from which emerged a great number of animals whose actions were very singular, but the distance was such that he could not make out with his naked eye what those eccentric creatures were. On having recourse to his pocket spy-glass, he ascertained that the animals, whose appearance had puzzled him so much, were baboons of a very large size. In the afternoon, the traveling party came near enough to the abodes of these queer brutes to make accurate observations of their appearance and behavior. The guides informed Livingstone that they did not like white men, and advised him to hasten by their place of residence, and avoid attracting their notice if possible. But the Doctor was not prepared to believe that these baboons entertained any unreasonable prejudices against Europeans, and curiosity prompted him to come to a pause while he watched the fantastic capers of a large party of them, which had convened on a shelf of the rock nearly over his head. They had already obtained a glimpse of our reverend tourist, and set up a cry, which seemed to be intended as a notification for him to depart. In the meanwhile, the tumult had attracted many other baboons to the edge of the rock; numbers of the females coming with their young ones in their arms, and all stared at the travelers as if they considered a Christian missionary as something monstrous or prodigious. They kept up a

perpetual chattering, and made many grotesque gestures at the Doctor, which seemed to be expressive of anger or derision. At last the clamor became perfectly overpowering, and not satisfied with hooting or screaming at the reverend gentleman, they began to pelt him with small fragments of the rock, and thus compelled him to retreat with a degree of expedition which seemed to be very amusing to the guides. The Doctor was then convinced that the baboons knew how to discriminate between white men and black ones, for they regarded the two Bakatla guides without any angry demonstrations or any symptoms of disgust, but rather seemed to acknowledge them as members of their own family.

On the next day Dr. Livingstone beheld, for the first time, a rhinoceros at large. It was one of the white variety, and a female, with her calf at her side. One of the Bakatlas threw an assagai or javelin at her, and wounded her in the side, whereupon she began to retreat, and helped her calf along by pressing her horn against its ribs. Dr. Livingstone persuaded his guide to let the poor creature escape, with the object of her maternal solicitude.

The Doctor states that there are four varieties of the rhinoceros in central Africa, viz.: 1. The Borela, or one-horned black rhinoceros; 2. The Keitloa, or two-horned black rhinoceros; 3. The Muchocho, or common white rhinoceros; 4. The Kobaobo, or long-horned white rhinoceros. Both of the black varieties are ferocious and dangerous, not waiting to be attacked, but

charging with headlong fury at man or beast, without any apparent cause or provocation. The black rhinoceros is always lean, and the flesh is tough and unfit for food, so that even the native Africans, with all their partiality for animal food, reject it. These beasts will devour the thick bark of trees, and even the prickly branches of the wait-a-bit thorn. Their voracity is astonishing; and when nothing else offers, stones and earth are swallowed by them with the greatest avidity. The horn of the black rhinoceros is much shorter than that of the white one; its usual length, when full grown, is about eighteen inches. The horn is solid throughout, and admits of a very fine polish. It affords an excellent material for various useful articles, especially drinking-cups, which are said to possess wonderful qualities when made of this substance. The report that a cup made of the horn of the rhinoceros will split when a poisonous liquid is poured into it, was for a long time discredited as an idle fable; but some of the latest travelers in Africa certify that it is perfectly true.

The black rhinoceros has small sparkling eyes of an angry and spiteful expression, which corresponds exactly with the disposition of the brute. The skin is very thick and hard, and cannot be penetrated by an ordinary leaden bullet.

The black rhinoceros is a very indolent beast; it may be seen standing idle all day, or lying asleep in the densest shades of the forest. It makes all its excursions in quest of food or drink, at night. This animal

appears to be subject to a kind of phrenzy, and when thus affected it will make the most furious attack on trees, bushes, and other unoffending objects; and often it is seen, when in its paroxysm of rage, plowing up the earth with its horn with the most frantic energy.

All the varieties of the rhinoceros delight to roll or wallow in the mud; and, in other respects, they have a strong resemblance to swine. The white rhinoceros feeds on grass and grows very fat. Its flesh is preferable to beef, being equally well flavored and more tender and juicy. The white variety is much larger than the black, but less courageous and active. The rhinoceros is not a gregarious animal. It is never seen except singly or in pairs. There can be no doubt that the rhinoceros is the animal mentioned in the book of Job, by the name of *unicorn*. The description of him there given is perfectly accurate.

CHAPTER XV.

AN ELAND KILLED—THE DOCTOR LECTURES HIS GUIDES ON THE SIN OF GLUTTONY—THEIR ABLE DEFENSE—A BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY—JACKALLS AND HYENAS—ADVENTURE WITH A WILD BOAR—HE IS “PSYCHOLOGIZED” BY THE DOCTOR—A WONDERFUL FOWL—BIRDS IN ABUNDANCE—BLACK-FACED BABOONS—SLANDERS ON AFRICA—THE “UNEXPLORED REGION” A TERRESTRIAL PARADISE—A LION IN THE PATH—CONSTERNATION OF THE GUIDES—DR. LIVINGSTONE’S HEROISM—HIS MIRACULOUS ESCAPE.

AMONG other remarkable animals with which this part of Africa is plentifully stocked is the eland, a kind of antelope, of a heavy corporal construction, which is scarcely more active than a domestic sheep, and may almost be run down by a man on foot. The Doctor’s two guides gave chase to one of them and succeeded in killing it. Then nothing could be thought of but skinning the beast and preparing a portion of the meat for immediate use. The Doctor looked on with melancholy resignation, knowing that it was useless to remonstrate. He was anxious to proceed on his journey, but as there were several fine shade trees on the spot where his Bakatla conductors had come to a pause, he sat down to

peruse his pocket Bible while his attendants prepared dinner. He found the meat of the eland very savory, though rather too greasy; but the latter circumstance recommended it particularly to his guides, who finding that the Doctor, like Jack Sprat, had no relish for the fattest portions of the viands, obligingly appropriated all those portions to themselves. Dr. Livingstone embraced this opportunity to enlighten them with respect to the sin of gluttony; but he might as well have preached against extortion to a company of pawn-brokers. The Bakatlas obstinately asserted that it is an inalienable right of black men to eat as long as they can find victuals and stomach-room enough to stow them away.

On the 25th day of August they continued their journey nearly due northward, through a country of increasing beauty and fertility. The landscapes were constantly diversified by hills and valleys, grassy lawns and groves of the richest verdure, sparkling rivulets and flowery meadows. The whole scene was enlivened by herds of antelopes of various kinds, zebras, camelopards and other herbivorous animals. Occasionally, to diversify the prospect, a troop of jackalls, hyenas, or wild dogs came in sight, but all seemed desirous of keeping at a respectful distance from the travelers. At night the guides constructed a rude hut of wait-a-bit thorns, which were generally within reach, and this was all the protection the Doctor and his companions had from the sanguinary beasts, which were heard howling and roaring in every direction as soon as the hour of

darkness arrived. This part of the country appeared to be well populated with lions; but as they were well supplied with antelopes and other quadrupedal game, they were not driven by hunger to make any hostile demonstrations against the travelers.

On the morning of the 26th a wild boar, with tusks of an appalling length projecting from his mouth, emerged from a thicket and advanced toward Dr. Livingstone's party, as if he had some intention of soliciting the honor of their acquaintance. But the Doctor succeeded in staring him out of countenance and thus checking his unauthorized advances. When he came within twenty yards of the reverend gentleman, he paused, and hanging down his head, as if ashamed of his irreverent behavior, he wheeled around and trotted back to his shady retreat.

Following the course of a crystal streamlet the travelers passed through a lovely and romantic country; and, at a late hour in the afternoon, they reached a wild but picturesque pass in that range of lofty mountains where the "Koulouberg," or "River of Wild Boars," takes its rise. This stream is a tributary of the Ngotwani, which has not yet found a place on the maps of Africa. Monkeys of several varieties abounded in the mountain pass we have just spoken of. The adjacent woods were full of gray squirrels and green parrots. Here likewise, for the first time, the Doctor saw that extraordinary fowl called the butcher-bird, or "fiscaal," which impales its prey on a sharp thorn before it proceeds to devour the animal thus spitted. The



DESPERATE FIGHT BETWEEN A HUGE SNAKE AND HYENA.

name "fiscaal," which the Dutch settlers give this bird, signifies *magistrate*; and they call him so because, as they suppose, he administers justice to delinquent animals. However, he is more of the executioner than the judge. The Dutchmen report that this bird puts its victims to death only on Friday, the day on which capital punishment is usually inflicted in all civilized nations.

These woods were inhabited by many other birds of various kinds, some of which have never been heard of in Europe, and many of which were of exquisite note and plumage. In addition to these there were a goodly number of black-faced baboons, who descended from the trees and ranged themselves on the ground to obtain a nearer view of the passengers. Dr. Livingstone, remembering his former experience with these animals, did not choose to cultivate their acquaintance. They grinned and chattered at him in the most insulting manner as he passed, seeming to regard him as a trespasser on their sylvan domains.

Contrary to all his expectations, Dr. Livingstone found that the character of the country improved as he advanced toward the interior. This circumstance is very much at variance with the prevailing notions of Europeans respecting the central regions of Africa. It has been believed by many that the greater part of that ground which is marked on the maps as "unexplored," is a howling wilderness, or an arid, sterile and uninhabitable country. The observations of Dr. Livingstone prove that these unexplored regions are really

the most fertile and beautiful of the continent. With joyful surprise, the Doctor discovered that the imaginary desert literally "blossomed like the rose," and the "waste sandy valleys" and "thirsty wilds," which chimney-corner geographers had assigned to this locality, became, on actual inspection, a gorgeous scene, decorated with Nature's most cheering garniture, teeming with the choicest specimens of vegetable and animal life, and refreshed by innumerable streams, not a few of which are of sufficient magnitude for the purposes of navigation and commerce.

Proceeding along the mountain gorge, our travelers found their path straitened between the impending mountain on one side and the rapid and sparkling stream on the other. On the opposite side of the ravine the precipices arose abruptly from the very edge of the water. The whole appearance of this mountain-pass is singularly grand, romantically wild and picturesquely beautiful. The travelers were often obliged to clamber over huge masses of granite, which had fallen from the cliffs above; and, on this account, their progress was slow and extremely toilsome. On turning an angle of the rock, about the centre of the gorge, the party were suddenly confronted by a huge tawny lion, which stood directly in the path, "with not a wall and scarce a space between." The path was so narrow in this place that it would have been impossible to pass by the brute without touching him. The two guides, though they were born (as we may say) and brought up among lions, were completely paralyzed on finding themselves in

company with the grizzly monster. The Doctor himself felt a good deal of perturbation, but he fortunately retained enough presence of mind to consider that it was his wisest plan to stand his ground. The Bakatlas were too much frightened to run away; in fact, they were "distilled almost to a jelly with the effect of fear," and were equally incapable of flight or resistance. The Doctor glanced at them, and immediately perceived that no help or counsel could be obtained from them in this trying emergency. The lion himself seemed to be taken by surprise, and to be in doubt how he ought to act in such extraordinary circumstances. Thus the human and quadruped opponents stood at the distance of about five yards from each other, each party staring at the other for several minutes. Had the travelers shown the least inclination to escape, or had they even turned their backs and attempted to retrace their steps, the fate of one or more of them would have been sealed. At length the Doctor assumed courage enough to pronounce the word "Begone!" in an authoritative tone, making at the same time an expressive gesture of dismissal with his right hand. The lion seemed to understand the sign, if not the word, and turning around slowly he withdrew with a stately and majestic pace, occasionally looking back and uttering a low growl, as if admonishing the travelers to keep their distance. They took the hint, and remained stationary until the lion disappeared at the end of the ravine. The appearance of this lion in the day-time proved that he had been driven abroad by hunger; and an encounter with a

hungry lion in a narrow defile of a mountain may be considered as a dangerous adventure. In all likelihood, Dr. Livingstone owed the preservation of his life on this occasion to his own admirable intrepidity, and the superintending care of Providence.

CHAPTER XVI.

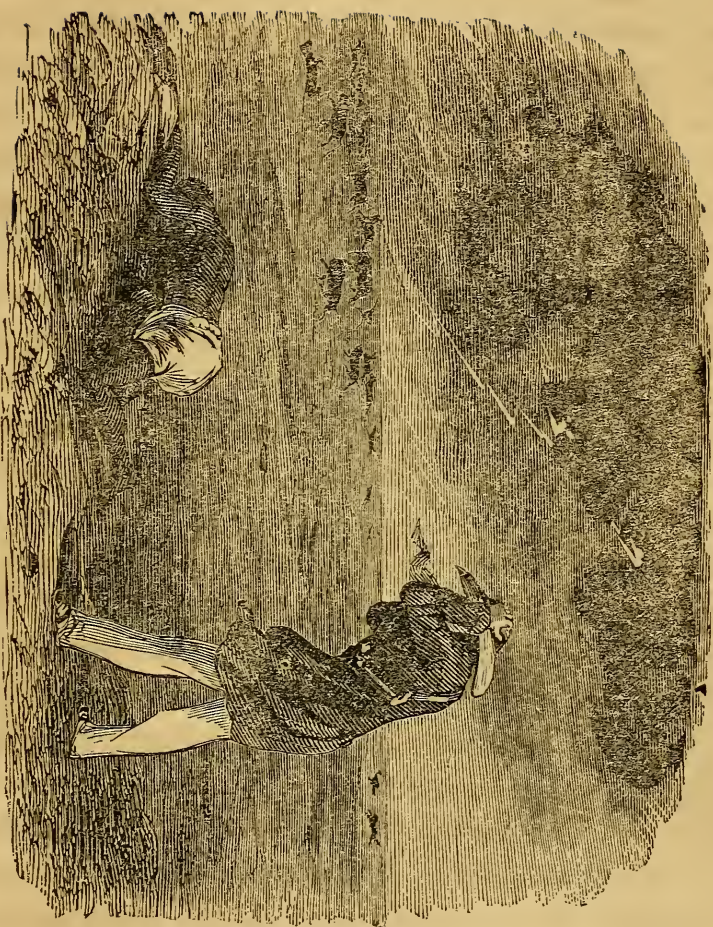
ARRIVAL AT BOOBY—THE DOCTOR IS INTRODUCED TO KING KACHEE—AFRICAN KINGS OPPOSED TO EXPLORATION—LAHARI DESERT—TERRIBLE SUFFERINGS OF THE TRAVELERS—THE DOCTOR COMPELLED TO DRINK BLOOD—A HERD OF GIRAFFES—THEIR MAGNIFICENT APPEARANCE—ELEPHANTS—PRODIGIOUS TUSKS—PECULIARITIES AND ECCENTRICITIES OF ELEPHANTS—THEIR LOVE OF DESTRUCTION, &c.

ON the 30th day of August, Dr. Livingstone's party overtook several native hunters, who had "bagged" an antelope and some other game, and were returning to their place of abode, namely, a kraal or village, having the ridiculous name of "Booby." Dr. Livingstone was invited by these Booby gentlemen to accompany them to their place of residence, and as he could do so without deviating much from his proposed route, he consented. They promised to give him an introduction to their king, of whom they gave a flattering description, representing him as the very model and pattern of all that is glorious and magnificent in royalty.

They arrived at the kraal of Booby on the 2d of September. This village is enclosed on three sides by rocky hills, which are thickly studded to their very

summits with trees of sandal-wood. In the valley between the mountains there are about five hundred acres of fine land, besides the ground occupied by the village, and the whole of this land is cultivated by the Booby women, the produce of the fields being used in common by all the villagers. The dress of these people is very similar to that we have described as being in use among the Bechuanas; but the Boobians or Boobies (or whatever you may choose to call the inhabitants of Booby,) use more red paint to improve their complexions than any other tribe which Dr. Livingstone had visited.

According to the promise of the Booby men who had persuaded the Doctor to visit this place, they presented him to the monarch, whose name is Káchee, and who was really a very civil and hospitable old fellow, though not exactly the perfect specimen of royal grandeur which his subjects had described. At this place, the Doctor was made aware of a trick which is commonly practiced by the African kings and chiefs, and which has been more instrumental than any thing else in preventing Europeans from exploring the country. Every chief seems to think himself under an obligation to use every artifice in his power to prevent travelers who may sojourn with them from extending their researches any further. They will tell any number of falsehoods, magnifying the dangers of the route, and employ every other device to discourage any attempt at exploration. No reliance can be placed on the statements of the natives respecting those parts of Africa which travelers from Europe have never



DR. AND HIS GUIDE IN A THUNDER STORM.

examined. The location of the town of Booby is in latitude $22^{\circ} 12'$ south, longitude $24^{\circ} 16'$ east.

The Doctor left Booby on the 6th of September, accompanied only by his two Bakatla guides, who had undertaken to conduct him to Bamangwato. On the 8th, they reached the borders of the Lahari desert, an angle of which projects at this point in a southeasterly direction. The part of the desert which lies between Booby and Bamangwato is about eighty miles in breadth, and owing to the difficulty of walking through the heavy sand and other obstacles, four days were consumed in crossing it. During these four days, the sufferings of the travelers for want of water and by exposure to the sun, were extremely severe. In this sandy desert no water-roots, no succulent herbs, nor any other kind of refreshment could be obtained; and Doctor Livingstone could not have endured the privations of this part of his journey, had not the guides slain several ostriches, the blood of which he was compelled by necessity to use as a beverage. On the morning of the 12th, they once more entered a country which produced herbage, though in very small quantities; and late in the afternoon of the same day, they arrived at a spring, the water of which appeared to be strongly impregnated with nitre; but this circumstance did not prevent the thirsty travelers from taking large draughts of it; and the consequence was that they were quite ill for four and twenty hours afterward.

The corner of the desert Lahari having been passed, the country once more began to wear an animated and

cheerful aspect. On a wide plain, covered with long grass, a large herd of giraffes was discovered. As the travelers drew nearer to these animals, Dr. Livingstone was astonished at their magnificent proportions. Many of them he judged to be full eighteen feet in height. Half a day's journey brought the party to a forest, the trees of which were of a gigantic size, and some of them seemingly were in a state of decay, in consequence of their great antiquity.

On the 16th day of September, they traveled over extensive plains, over which were scattered some dwarfish trees, and a ridge of blue misty mountains was seen in advance. These mountains were the Bamangwato range, to which the Doctor's course had been directed. This part of the country is much frequented by elephants, whose tracks, and other indications of their presence, were seen in every direction. Many of the trees had been torn up by the roots by these animals in their wanton love of mischief. From the Doctor's memoranda we select the following account of the African elephant, which comprises some particulars which we hope will be new and interesting to our readers.

Elephants are commonly seen in herds, more or less numerous. The male is very much larger and stronger than the female. He carries two tusks, varying in length from four to ten feet, and weighing from fifty to a hundred and twenty pounds each. Those elephants which are found near the equator are of a much larger size than those which are seen nearer Cape Colony. Dr. Livingstone saw the tusk of an elephant which mea-

sured nearly eleven feet in length. The animal which wore this tusk must have been twice as large as any elephant which has been seen at the menageries. The tusks are very valuable, being worth from 100 to 150 dollars per hundred pounds. Old bull elephants sometimes acquire a sulky disposition, and refuse to associate with others of their species; hence they are occasionally seen alone, and in all such cases they are found to be of a ferocious temper. In general, the elephant is a mild and inoffensive animal, and is so much afraid of the human species that a child might put him to flight. The males usually keep to themselves, and are often seen in troops of ten or twelve, without any females in their company. The young bulls remain with their mothers until they arrive at years of discretion; and herds of female elephants with their calves often number more than a hundred individuals.

These creatures feed on the branches, leaves, and roots of trees, long grass, fruit, &c.; and they consume a surprising quantity of provender, being constantly engaged in eating during a great part of the day and night. They commit terrible devastations in the forests where they are feeding, breaking up the trees, and wasting a great deal more than they devour. The scene in a forest after they have left it, reminds one of the operations of a tornado, the whole ground being covered with trees rooted up and scattered about in every direction.

Although these eccentric animals drink a good deal, and are very fond of playing in the water, they never

fix their dormitories near any spring or river, but prefer traveling a number of miles every night to refresh themselves with a draught, and spout water at each other from their trunks. After amusing themselves in this way for about an hour, they return to the place which they left in the early part of the evening, and which is often so remote from the watering-place, that morning dawns before their arrival. The elephant sleeps little, only about two hours in the twenty-four; sometimes lying down when he slumbers on his broad-side, and sometimes leaning against a tree or reclining against the side of a hill.

CHAPTER XVII.

MAGNIFICENT SCENERY—ARRIVAL AT THE KRAAL OF BAMANGWATO—THE DOCTOR'S PRESENTATION TO KING SICOMA — THE NATIVES ARE SURPRISED AT THE DOCTOR'S APPEARANCE—THE KING MISTAKES DR. LIVINGSTONE FOR ANOTHER MONARCH — SICOMA'S MERCANTILE PROPENSITIES—HIS MAJESTY'S ROQUERY —HIS TYRANNICAL PRACTICES—HE FORBIDS THE DOCTOR TO PROCEED ON HIS JOURNEY—LIVINGSTONE RETURNS TO KOLOBENG.

DR. LIVINGSTONE was now within forty miles of the village where the royal Sicoma, king of the extensive territory of Bamangwato, holds his court. The Bamangwato mountains loomed up majestically before our travelers; and the route now lay through dense jungles and thorny thickets, which made the traveling exceedingly troublesome. The ground in some places was very rocky, affording abundance of first-rate building material, if the inhabitants of the country knew how to avail themselves of the blessing. As they drew nearer to the mountain, they entered a level space covered with acacia trees. The pods of this tree are much relished by cattle, and when they are fed with it, they become exceedingly fat. The gum of the species

found near the Bamangwato mountains, resembles sugar-candy in appearance and taste, and is very nutritious. It is much used by the natives for food. The appearance of the mountains at this spot is singularly grand and picturesque. Rocks are piled on rocks in a sort of "harmonious confusion," forming precipices of a vast height in some places, while in others the projecting cliffs hung far over the plain, threatening to overwhelm the travelers at every step.

The party paused near a spring of excellent water which issued from a cleft of the rocks; and the Doctor sent one of his guides to announce his arrival to King Sicoma, whose kraal was about one mile distant. In less than half an hour the guide returned, accompanied by two of Sicoma's prime ministers, who saluted the Doctor with great ceremony, and informed him that his gracious majesty was willing to grant the white man an audience. The travelers were then conducted to the royal presence, and were received with every demonstration of kindness. King Sicoma is rather an ill-looking, blear-eyed fellow, about thirty years of age, with a roguish expression of countenance, somewhat aggravated by a constant attempt to look pleasant. His subjects crowded around to obtain a view of the white man, few of them, perhaps, having ever seen such a phenomenon before.

The Doctor's two Bakatla guides appeared to be awe-stricken and crushed into the very dust by the royal presence of Sicoma. They made their reverence by stretching out their hands and clapping them

together, exclaiming "Rumeli, cosi!" or "Hail, O king!" This salutation was acknowledged by his majesty with the monosyllable "Ah!" the common answer to all greetings among many tribes of Africans. When the Doctor followed the example of the guides by clapping his hands at the king, Sicoma answered "Ah!—kietumela, cosi a machoa;" *i. e.* "Thank you, king of the white men." Whereby the Doctor perceived that the guide who had been sent forward to advise Sicoma of his coming, had misrepresented his rank and dignity, in order to obtain for him a more flattering reception.

Sicoma is a very garrulous person; he talked almost without intermission, sometimes addressing himself in a serious strain to Dr. Livingstone, and sometimes cracking jokes with his nobility. The latter showed their courtier-like tact by going off into convulsions of merriment when the monarch uttered one of his witticisms. This king proved that he had "some speculation in his eyes," by requesting "cosi a machao," (the king of the white men), to allow his subjects to trade with the people of Bamangwato, and especially with himself, remarking that he could sell ivory as cheap as any king in Africa.

Dr. Livingstone promised to make his countrymen aware of this fact, as soon as he should have an opportunity to do so; whereupon Sicoma became more jovial than ever, and ordered his attendants to supply the travelers with a plenty of "boyalwa," or native beer. This beer, by the way, is rather "hard to take," but

as it is a national beverage, and the people of the country appear to feel hurt when it is rejected, travelers generally compel themselves to swallow some of it, though it offends the palate and is apt to produce griping pains afterward.

The Doctor found that Sicoma really possessed a good stock of ivory, though the mode in which he obtained it was not much to his credit. All the ivory which King Sicoma has "on hand," is procured from a brave tribe in the interior, who kill the elephants with javelins or assagais; but as these hunters are very "fresh," they allow themselves to be cheated by Sicoma, who barter a few paltry beads and other worthless toys for this valuable commodity. Sicoma proves himself a tyrant as well as a rogue, by compelling some of the Baka Lahari, or wild natives of the desert (over whom he exercises an usurped sovereignty), to convey the tusks he has purchased to his camp. These poor wretches are compelled to travel many miles, each one carrying a load heavy enough for a horse, and many of them die of fatigue and exhaustion before they reach Bamangwato.

The Doctor suggests that an extremely profitable trade might be carried on with these people. The articles which are chiefly in demand among them are fire-arms and ammunition. For an ordinary musket worth five or six dollars, they are willing to give three elephants' tusks, the aggregate value of which is more than \$300. Powder, bullet-moulds, and iron-ladles suitable for melting lead, are much coveted by the natives, and command

a handsome price. They are also partial to snuff and coffee, which will always find a ready sale among them.

Sicoma informed the Doctor that several tribes beyond the kraal of Bamangwato were addicted to murder and robbery, and in a very significant manner he notified the traveler that it would not be expedient for him to proceed any further. Dr. Livingstone immediately perceived that the king's object was to prevent the white man from having any intercourse with the tribes further to the north, lest some business arrangements should be made which should frustrate Sicoma's hopes of opening a profitable traffic with Europeans. Finding that the Doctor was not inclined to pay much attention to these hints of danger, Sicoma peremptorily forbade him to prosecute his journey any further through the territories over which his majesty claimed to have jurisdiction. To disregard this injunction would have been dangerous in the extreme, as the king was not of a temper to allow his authority to be set at defiance. Dr. Livingstone determined, therefore, to return to Kolobeng, and to start from thence on a new route more to the eastward, with the hope of discovering that large body of water of whose existence he had heard various accounts from the native hunters.

CHAPTER XVIII.

DR. LIVINGSTONE'S SECOND JOURNEY—HE IS JOINED BY
MESSRS. OSWALD AND MURRAY—EQUIPMENTS FOR
TRAVEL—AN EXCITING ELEPHANT HUNT—DANGEROUS
SPORT—ATTACK ON AN ELEPHANT—HE MAKES A
CHARGE AT THE HUNTERS—DEATH OF THE BEAST—
HOW ELEPHANTS ARE CUT UP AND COOKED—BILTUNG—
THE ELEPHANT'S FOOT A GREAT DAINTY.

ON his arrival at Kolobeng, Dr. Livingstone found two of his countrymen, Messrs. Oswald and Murray, who had come thus far, by the direction of Mr. Moffatt, in search of him. These gentlemen had come to Africa for the purpose of making explorations; and, having reached the missionary station of Kuruman, they were there informed that Dr. Livingstone had started on a tour northward, intending to take Kolobeng in his route, whereupon Oswald and Murray took the same course, with the hope of overtaking him. This they probably would not have done, had not the Doctor been ordered by King Sicoma to return. The three gentlemen having consulted together, after their meeting at Kolobeng, agreed to take a course across the desert of Lahari, in nearly a northeasterly direction. They engaged several Bechuanas to carry their luggage,



rather than to guide them; for, as the Bechuanas always avoid the desert when they go on their hunting excursions, they were not prepared to act as conductors on this route.

Among their other equipments, this traveling party provided themselves with large water-bags made of skins, as they considered that it would be necessary to carry a supply of water with them when they should begin to traverse the desert. Oswald and Murray likewise furnished themselves with good rifles and ammunition, knowing that they would have to depend on hunting, in a great measure, for their subsistence during the journey.

The native attendants required no other wages or reward for their services, than permission to share the spoils of the chase. These savages are so fond of flesh that they will run all risks to obtain it. They consider animal food as the only proper diet for man; corn, fruit, and vegetables, say they, are suitable only for women and children. For about one hundred miles beyond Kolobeng, in a northwesterly course, the travelers found a country well supplied with water and game; and in this part of their journey, they fared very well indeed, living, as we may say, "on the fat of the land."

On the eleventh day of September, 1849, this being the third day after their departure from Kolobeng, the Bechuana attendants discovered the first "spoor" or track of an elephant. The Doctor's companions were eager to obtain a shot at the animal; and as he had

taken a route nearly identical with that which they intended to travel, there was no reason why they should not go in pursuit.

They found the object of their search much sooner than they expected. He was standing in a grove of mimosa trees, fanning himself with his huge ears, and trumpeting occasionally, as these beasts are accustomed to do when they are suspicious that some stranger is in their neighborhood. He was a bull elephant of the largest size, with a wicked twinkle in his eye, which advised the beholders that his temper was none of the sweetest. He was, in fact, one of those solitary and crabbed old fellows who shun the society of their species, and contrary to the practice of all well-disposed elephants, prefer to keep to themselves.

Mr. Oswald had studied the art of elephant-shooting, theoretically, before he started on his African tour. Confiding rather too much in his knowledge of this art, he advanced to begin the attack; stationing himself behind a tree, not more than eighty yards from the elephant's flank, he aimed at a point just behind the shoulder, according to the instructions he had received from experienced hunters. The ball took effect, without doing the beast any serious damage, but hurt him sufficiently to excite his indignant feelings, and urge him to seek vengeance. He glanced around, as if to see who had been his assailant, but as Mr. Oswald was concealed behind the tree, the remaining members of the party, who stood nearly a quarter of a mile off, watching for the event, had to take the responsibility. The

elephant, elevating his trunk, and trumpeting in the most terrific manner, made a charge at them. The Bechuanas fled in various directions; Murray and Livingstone were almost disposed to do likewise, but the former thought it advisable to try the effect of a shot before he betook himself to inglorious flight. He aimed at the creature's eye, but merely succeeded in perforating one of his ears; but the shot had the desired effect of compelling the elephant to come to a halt. Mr. Oswald now gave the beast the contents of his second barrel, which struck him in a vulnerable part, and caused him to utter a piercing shriek expressive of rage and anguish.

In the meanwhile, several dogs which accompanied the party, came forward to have a share in the sport. They ran around at a very respectable distance, barking at the brute and monopolizing his attention; for he now seemed to regard the dogs as the authors of his misfortunes; and charged at them with great fury, his wounds in the meanwhile beginning to bleed very copiously. Murray now took a position by the side of Oswald; both gentlemen loading their pieces and firing rapidly, until some sixteen bullets had been safely lodged in the elephant's body. He now began to show symptoms of great distress, tossing his trunk up and down and uttering groans which plainly indicated that his mortal hour was at hand. The hunters perceiving that he could no longer make any effectual resistance, drew near; and, placing the muzzles of their guns almost in contact with his hide, let him have it right and left.

He made a feeble attempt to retreat, but it was too late. Falling heavily on his side, his mighty limbs quivered for a few moments, and then all was still.

The Bechuanas now came up, dancing around the carcass, and making exclamations which denoted their extreme gratification at the prospect of a feast. A piece of meat was cut from the temple of the defunct animal, and broiled for the white men's supper; that part being considered as one of the choicest dainties. The Bechuanas then went to work with great energy, and soon skinned and cut up the carcass in the most artistical style. In the performance of such tasks, the native Africans appear to take great delight, and they have a disgusting trick of smearing their bodies with the clotted gore. The trunk and feet are regarded as among the most delicate portions of an elephant's carcass. The flesh of the body is cut into strips from six to twenty feet in length, and about an inch in thickness, which are hung on poles to dry, and afterward wound up in coils or bundles. These strips are called by the natives "biltung;" and whenever they intend to make a meal, they uncoil one of the rolls, and devour yard after yard with insatiable avidity.

The feet of the elephant are baked in a sort of oven made by digging a hole in the ground. A fire is kindled in the cavity, and when the fuel is reduced to ashes, the foot is thrown in and is cooked by the heated earth and embers.

The feet when properly cooked, are really delicious. The trunk can hardly be distinguished by the taste

from beef-tongue. All parts of the elephant, however, are greedily devoured by the Africans, who even crack the bones and suck out the marrow with the keenest relish; the skull and spinal column are especially prized by them, on account of the great quantity of marrow which they contain.

CHAPTER XIX.

THE DOCTOR BORROWS A CLOAK, AND IS GLAD TO RETURN IT—ABUNDANCE OF GAME—TERRIBLE COMBAT WITH A BLACK RHINOCEROS—MURRAY'S NARROW ESCAPE—ANOTHER STRANGE BIRD, THE BUPHAGA AFRICANA—HOW IT KEEPS GUARD OVER THE RHINOCEROS—PASSAGE OF LAHARI DESERT—NATIVE PARASOLS.

AFTER the notable adventure with the elephant related in the last chapter, our travelers felt fatigued, and came to a halt about sunset, to make arrangements for a good night's repose. Every man gathered as much dry grass as would serve him for a couch; each one being provided with a sheep-skin to answer the purpose of a quilt, counterpane, or blanket. One of the Bechuanas kindly lent the Doctor his kaross, or skin cloak, with the view of making the reverend gentleman more comfortable. But as soon as he had wrapped himself in this garment, the whole surface of his body began to smart and burn as though it had been anointed with vitriolic acid. The kaross proved to be stocked with a dense insect population of the most disreputable character. As soon as the Doctor became sensible of this fact, he lost no time in returning the

FIRE JUST IN TIME TO SAVE HIS LIFE.



garment to its right owner, with many grateful acknowledgments of the kindness intended, though it happened to fail in its purpose.

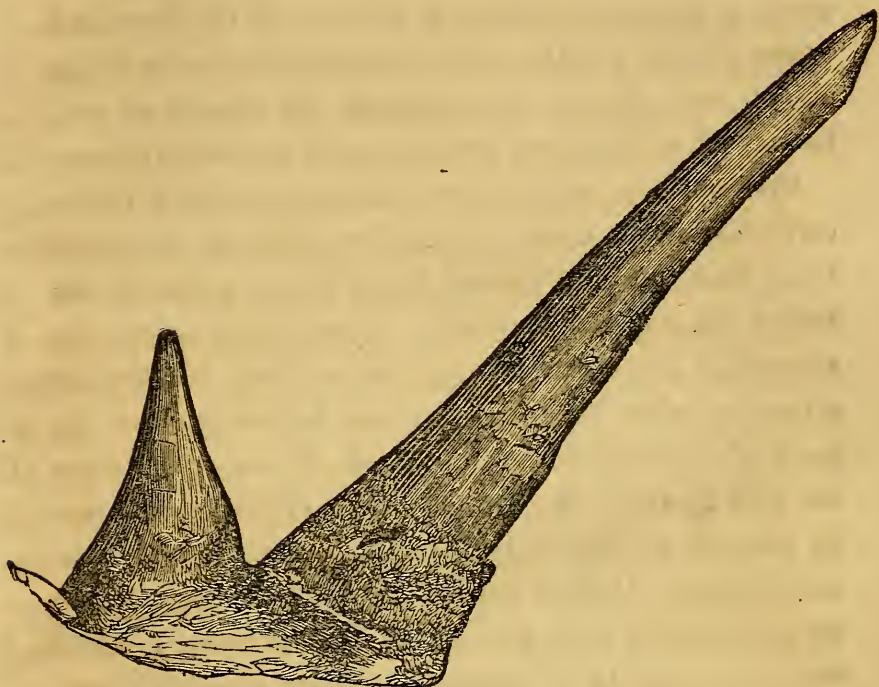
As the travelers approached the desert, the signs of vegetation began to disappear. Wherever an opportunity offered, the water-bags were replenished, as it was impossible to say how soon such opportunities would cease. Every day, Messrs. Oswald and Murray shot enough antelopes and other game to keep the party plentifully supplied with provisions.

Rhinoceroses, especially those of the black variety, now began to make their appearance frequently. These beasts are more feared by the native Africans than lions themselves, as they will often attack men, and that without the least provocation. Once, when our travelers had paused to hold a consultation in relation to the course they should pursue, they were startled by a snorting among the bushes, and in the next moment a black rhinoceros broke from the cover. With his single horn presented in a very menacing manner, he charged the travelers, who were altogether unprepared for the onset. Some attempt was made by the party to scatter themselves, but the furious beast was down on them in a moment. The horn took effect in the seat of Murray's inexpressibles, and made an awful rip in the garment, fortunately without doing any other damage. The assailant passed on, as if unable to recover from the impetus of his rapid charge, but soon ran against a tree, the collision seeming to give him a considerable shock. He then paused and looked around, as if meditating

a second attack. At that moment, Oswald, who kept his rifle loaded as preparatory for any emergency, blazed away at the saucy brute, and hit him near the neck, producing a wound that caused a flow of blood. This seemed to be more than the beast had expected from enemies so insignificant in appearance. He wheeled around as if to retire; but Oswald's second barrel was instrumental in breaking his leg, which accident made it inconvenient for him to stir from the spot. The Bechuanas advised the Englishmen not to approach the disabled beast, giving them to understand that this creature always fights desperately to the last. But Murray, whose indignation was excited by the injury done to his pantaloons, disregarded the advice of the natives, and advanced within a few yards of old "Borelé," who appeared to have reserved all his declining strength for such an occasion. With a desperate effort, he started from his half-reclining posture and pitched himself at Murray, who luckily avoided the horn, but was knocked down by contact with the beast's shoulder. For a moment, his companions gave him up for lost. He was lying on his side, and the sharp point of the horn of the rhinoceros touched his breast; but at that critical moment the wounded beast staggered and fell on his haunches, pouring a stream of blood from his mouth, and was totally incapable of making any further demonstration of battle.

Mr. Murray then recovered his feet, and placing the muzzle of his gun in the mouth of the rhinoceros, he

gave the finishing touch,—the beast rolled over on his side and expired without another struggle.



HORNS OF THE RHINOCEROS.

On the confines of Lahari desert, Dr. Livingstone witnessed an incident which confirmed the truth of a story which he had heard from the Bechuanas, but which he had hitherto considered as too extravagant for belief. It appears that the black rhinoceros, or borelé, as the natives call him, is frequently attended by a bird (the *buphaga Africana*) which feeds on parasitical insects, and picks its prey from the hide of the rhinoceros. It also performs the duty of a sentinel,

watching over the safety of the quadruped with the most anxious solicitude. As soon as this feathered guardian perceives a hunter approaching the rhinoceros, it perches on the back or head of the beast and utters a shrill whistle. The rhinoceros understands the signal, and whether he perceives the danger or not, he sets off at full speed and generally makes his escape.

One morning our travelers discovered a black rhinoceros fast asleep under the shadow of a large wait-a-bit thorn-bush, and Mr. Oswald hoped to get a shot at him before his nap was finished. Approaching softly, the sportsman presented his gun, but withheld his fire for a moment when he observed a bird fluttering about the head of the slumbering quadruped. He expected to see the bird fly away, but it soon became evident that it was its purpose to awaken the sleeper. Surprise and curiosity induced Oswald to hesitate a little longer: in the meanwhile, the bird, perceiving that its drowsy friend was too sound to be aroused by mere whistling, actually stuck its bill far into the ear of the sluggard, who immediately started to his feet, and dashing off at full speed, soon succeeded in hiding himself in a neighboring jungle.

The journey across Lahari desert occupied eight days, this part of the sandy waste being much wider than that which Dr. Livingstone had formerly traveled. On the present occasion, the travelers carried a sufficient supply of water with them in bags made of elephant skin, and they found enough ostrich eggs on this part of their route to keep them well furnished with

provisions. They would have suffered severely, however, from exposure to the sun, had not the Bechuanas taught them to make excellent parasols of ostrich feathers. Parasols of this kind are much used by the people of this tribe, both males and females. The men never start out on a hunting expedition without them.

CHAPTER XX.

THE DESERT LAHARI IS PASSED OVER—ARRIVAL AT A BAYEYE VILLAGE—THORNY TRAVELING—DR. LIVINGSTONE'S GRAND DISCOVERY, LAKE NGAMI—ITS SITUATION—ITS SIZE AND APPEARANCE—WHY IT WAS NEVER DISCOVERED BEFORE—CROCODILES AND HIPPOPOTAMI — AQUATIC BIRDS, FISH, AND OTHER PRODUCTIONS OF THE LAKE.

HAVING crossed the desert of Lahari, and reached the north-western extremity thereof, Dr. Livingstone and his party came to a kraal or village belonging to a tribe called Bayeye, governed by King Lekol Otaba. These people, like many other tribes of Africans, are of an excessively merry disposition. They are never troubled with the "blues;" while they have a sufficiency of flesh to eat and a pipe to smoke. But from the highest to the lowest, they are sadly addicted to lying and stealing. The men are incorrigible loafers, spending their whole time in dozing or eating. All the labor is performed by the women, who till the ground, gather in the harvest, such as it is, grind the corn, and wait upon their lazy and luxurious lords with the most dutiful attention. Every Bayeye man has as many wives as he can purchase, and wives are a cheap commodity in

LAKE NGAML.





that region. Twelve or fifteen for one man is considered a moderate allowance. Their houses are circular with dome-like tops, covered with long grass or matting made of rushes.

Their dress is very similar to that of the Bechuanas, a description of which has been given in a former part of this work. They have no arms but a small light javelin and a shield, made of the thick skin of the camelopard. They raise a kind of corn or grain, much like canary seed in appearance, but when ground it makes very good flour. They also cultivate tobacco, calabashes, watermelons, pumpkins, and several kinds of peas and beans. Various edible fruits grow wild in the adjacent country.

On inquiring of these people concerning a large collection of water which was supposed to exist further to the north, our travelers were assured that such a lake or sea would be found at the end of three days' journey. Several Bayeye men who declared that they had often seen this body of water while on hunting excursions, were induced to accompany the exploring party as guides.

For two days after their departure from the Bayeye village, the travelers were compelled to wade rather than walk, through a country covered with wait-a-bit thorns, which tore not only their clothing, but the upper leathers of their boots into strips and ribbons. They were much annoyed and dispirited by this troublesome and painful obstruction to their progress; but in order to encourage them, the guides gave them an

assurance that they should see the great lake Ngami on the following day.

At last the wilderness of thorns was at end. The party halted for the night in a pleasant little valley, nicely carpeted with grass and flowers, and irrigated by several springs. In the morning they started with renovated vigor, and pushed on rapidly, until the time by Mr. Oswald's watch was 2 P. M., but still there was no appearance of the promised lake. The three Englishmen held a consultation together, and agreed in the opinion that the natives had very likely been deceiving them with regard to that lake. The lying propensities of these savages gave a strong coloring of probability to this supposition. However, nothing better could now be done than to press forward, with a faint hope of finding the object of their search. In the meanwhile, some of the natives had gone on to a ridge or rising ground in front, and there coming to a halt, they began to exclaim, "Ngami! Ngami!" with clamorous reiteration.

Livingstone, Oswald, and Murray, sprang forward with anxious precipitation, and as soon as they reached the summit of the little hill on which their guides were stationed, the great geographical problem was solved, all doubts respecting the existence of the Lake Ngami were at an end. Full in view, and at no great distance, an immense sheet of water extended as far as the eye could reach, and its color and general appearance seemed to promise considerable depth.

This lake, now seen for the first time by Europeans,

is situated between $20^{\circ} 30'$ and $21^{\circ} 4'$ south latitude, $21^{\circ} 16'$ and $22^{\circ} 30'$ east longitude from Greenwich. Among the natives this lake bears different names, as *Inghahe* (the Giraffe), *Noka ea Mokoron* (Lake of Boats), and Ngami, or the Great Waters. Some reports concerning the existence of such a lake had reached Europe as early as 1805, but as all notions of it were derived from the statements of the native Africans, who are notoriously addicted to lying; the very existence of the lake was questioned by scientific men in general. In the early part of this century, several travelers, who thought it probable that a large inland body of water might exist in Central Africa, made some efforts to explore the region in which this body of water was supposed to be situated. These attempts at exploration failed, because none of the adventurers had courage, energy, or endurance enough to cross that horrid tract of barren sand, called Lahari or Kalahari desert. Dr. Livingstone and his companions were the first Europeans who ever succeeded in that great enterprise.

The size of the lake is variously estimated; but it is certainly not less than fifty miles in length and twenty-five in breadth, being broadest at its western extremity, and narrowing to a point at its eastern termination, where it connects with the river Zouga. The form of the lake is therefore triangular, the two sides representing the radii of a circle, and the western end a segment of the circumference. From the southern side, where Dr. Livingstone obtained his first view of

this lake, the opposite shore could be discerned with a telescope, but when the instrument was pointed westerly, nothing could be seen but a blue horizon of water. The southern coast of the lake is almost inaccessible, on account of a dense skirting of reeds and bushes which cover the banks to a considerable distance from the water. In some few places, the rhinoceros and other animals have broken a passage through this enclosure, so as to afford access to the edge of the lake. The bank on this side is considerably elevated.

The northern shore of Lake Ngami, is of a very different character; it is low and sandy, and affords every facility for approaching the water. The beach is a naked expanse of sand, not less than a mile in breadth; but beyond this marginal vacancy, there is a thick growth of bushes and trees of various sorts and sizes, among which Dr. Livingstone noted the gigantic baobab, the vegetable prodigy of Africa, and probably the largest and tallest tree in the world.

The whole country around the lake produces in great abundance all of those varieties of the acacia tree, which are indigenous to Africa; also a great variety of wild fruits; so that, in fact, the lake may be said to be enclosed in a vast forest. The river Tioche is one of the tributaries of this lake, though it does not empty directly into the lake itself, but rather into Zouga river, near the point where the latter unites with the Ngami.

Lake Ngami is exceedingly productive of animal life. Aquatic birds of various species, crocodiles and other

reptiles swarm in its waters. Hippopotami and otters were also seen in great numbers. Dr. Livingstone supposes the lake to be well stocked with fish, but he had no opportunity to make any observations in relation to the piscatory treasures of these waters.

CHAPTER XXI.

WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE LIVE NEAR THE LAKE—THE BOTOANAS—THEIR GOVERNMENT—NO NOTIONS OF A DEITY OR A FUTURE STATE—THEIR RIDICULOUS SUPERSTITIONS—THE RAIN-MAKER—FUNNY ANECDOTE OF ONE OF THEM—BAD SOIL FOR GOSPEL SEED—CUSTOMS OF THE BOTOANAS—HOW THEY BURY THEIR DEAD—THE ART OF NAVIGATION AMONG THEM.

THE northern shores of Lake Ngami are inhabited by a large tribe of negroes called Botoanas. Their government is both monarchical and patriarchal; though the authority of the king is almost without limit, it is always exercised with moderation. This tribe comprises several subordinate clans, each governed by its chief, but all are subject to one monarch. The present sovereign of the Botoanas is Lakolatabe, who has also obtained by conquest the rule over several other tribes. The subordinate chiefs are the aristocracy of the nation. Though they acknowledge the supremacy of the king, they canvass his actions with great freedom. An assemblage of the chiefs convenes monthly, being a sort of legislative and representative body, which constitutes an important branch of the government, and would

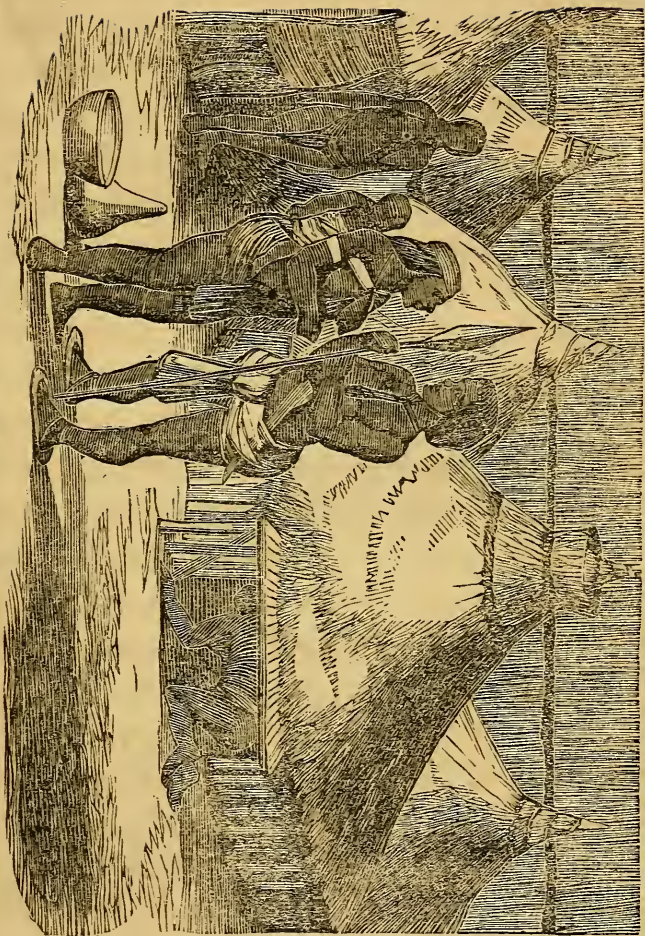
even hold the king responsible for any gross abuse of his power.

The religious or superstitious notions of these people, and indeed of African tribes in general, are enveloped in profound mystery. They can hardly be induced to converse on such topics, because they have formed no opinions in relation to matters beyond this world. It is very doubtful whether they have any notions of a Supreme Being, or of a life beyond the grave. Dr. Livingstone observes, in reference to these people: "I have often wished to find something by means of which I could lay hold on the minds of the natives—an altar 'to the unknown God,' the faith of their ancestors, the immortality of the soul, or any religious association. But nothing of this kind ever floated in their minds. They looked on the sun with the eyes of an ox. To speak to the greatest of them of a Creator, of the resurrection of the dead and immortality beyond the grave, was to tell them what appeared to them to be more fabulous, extravagant, and ludicrous than their own wild stories about lions, hyenas, and jackalls. To tell them that these matters were objects of our creed, was to extort exclamations of surprise, and such questions as, 'Is it possible that you are stupid enough to believe such nonsense?'"

If the Doctor's main object in traveling so far was to convert these people to Christianity, we suppose he now felt somewhat disappointed and discouraged, and his project of christianizing all Africa began to look rather unpromising.

The Botoana gentlemen, however, notwithstanding their obstinate incredulity in other matters, have great faith in wizards, quack doctors, and rain-makers. The latter are a sort of speculating gentry, who, for a suitable consideration, undertake to procure showers at short notice ; and, during a protracted dry spell of weather, their services are very much in demand, and are well remunerated. The rain-makers are persons of immense power, being regarded as a sort of earthly demigods, and the king himself stands in awe of them. They are never at a loss for an excuse to account for their failures, when they cannot prevail on the clouds to discharge their watery treasures at the time specified ; and however bad their success in this particular may be, their credit never fails with the Botoana public. They are, in fact, perfect adepts in the art of humbugging ; and it appears that the devil sometimes favors them, as he generally does his most dutiful children. The following incident, related by Dr. Livingstone, is much to the purpose.

The inhabitants of Kolobeng experienced severe droughts for several successive seasons ; a council was held by the long-headed elders of the tribe ; and after some debate, a resolution was passed to send for a rain-maker of great renown, who lived about two hundred miles from that station. Commissioners were dispatched to negotiate with this mighty cloud-controller, the only fear being that they could not prevail on him to come. However, by generous offers of compensation, he was induced to accompany the commissioners ;



OVAMBO TRIBE.



and it so happened that at the very moment of his arrival at Kolobeng, the skies became overcast, and the rumbling of a thunder-storm was heard in the distance. The rain-maker had scarcely time to perform a few magic ceremonies, throwing himself on his back, and pointing his two big toes at the clouds, when the water came down in torrents. Such a shower had not been experienced in that neighborhood for five years.

After this demonstrative fact, it was in vain for Dr. Livingstone to preach to the Kolobeng people against the pretensions of the rain-makers; and although the natives considered that miraculous shower as a lucky affair for them, the Doctor always spoke of it with sorrow and mortification, as it established the people in their superstitious notions to such a degree that all the Doctor's anathemas against magic incantations fell harmless, like cannon balls fired at the rock of Gibraltar.

The Botoanas bury their dead with some curious ceremonies. No person is allowed to die, except in a sitting posture; and when it is perceived that the moment of dissolution is near at hand, a skin or net is thrown over the sick man's body, and he is drawn up thereby to the sedentary position, and is held in that position by the attendants until life is extinct. The grave is formed in a manner very similar to the European style; but, for some purpose not explained, the inside of the pit is carefully rubbed all around with a certain root. As the corpse, instead of lying in the grave, sits upright, the head is always near the surface

of the earth, and a small acacia bush is planted directly over the cranium, to answer the purpose of a tomb-stone.

All the tribes residing near Lake Ngami raise large flocks of sheep and goats, also a few cows and oxen. The only employments which the men engage in are war and hunting. The women do all the farming, and even build the houses, besides attending to all the usual domestic occupations, cooking dinners, making clothing, nursing babies, &c. Truly the situation of a Botoana wife is no sinecure.

These people, living so near the water, have made some progress in the art of navigation; but their canoes are very wretched specimens of marine architecture. They are merely trunks of trees, about twenty feet long, pointed at both ends, and hollowed out by burning. Two men generally manage one boat. One man, provided with a long pole, is seated near the bow, and propels the boat along by pressing the end of the pole against the bottom. The boatmen seldom venture into water which is too deep for this kind of propulsion. The second man sits at the stern, and uses a paddle, which is employed chiefly as a substitute for a rudder. Notwithstanding the awkwardness of their propelling apparatus, they can drive their skiffs through the water with considerable rapidity.

CHAPTER XXII.

DR. LIVINGSTONE ESTABLISHES HIMSELF AT MABOTZA—
HE GAINS FAVOR WITH THE KING—IS OBLIGED BY
RELIGIOUS SCRUPLES TO DECLINE A GENEROUS OFFER
—MRS. LIVINGSTONE COMES TO MABOTZA AND RESIDES
WITH HER HUSBAND—THE DOCTOR STARTS ON HIS
THIRD EXPEDITION—VISITS A TRIBE OF AFRICAN
QUAKERS—THEIR CURIOUS REASON FOR NOT FIGHTING.

HAVING accomplished enough to immortalize them, by the discovery of Lake Ngami, our travelers now set out on their return to Kolobeng, retracing their former route, and meeting with sundry adventures which the limits of our work will not permit us to record. Oswald and Murray, very much elated, no doubt, by the success of their enterprise, pursued their way to Cape Town. Dr. Livingstone had formed a resolution to settle himself, for a time, at Mabotza, the head-quarters of Mosielely, king of the Bakatlas. This monarch had listened to the Doctor's religious instructions with much candor and patience, and was graciously pleased to admit that there might be some truth in his accounts of the creation of the world, &c. "At least," said his majesty very gravely, "I know nothing to the contrary; and if my father (Livingstone), says it is true, I will take his word for it."

Mosielely, likewise, freely gave his permission to have his subjects taught these new doctrines, since his English father thought that they might thereby be cured of some of their bad tricks

Thus encouraged, the Doctor thought that he had found a field where his missionary labors might be crowned with some success. The king gave him a comfortable hut, and offered to supply him with five or six wives from among the ladies of the tribe; but the Doctor informed the gracious sovereign that he already had one spouse, and that the rules of his religion would allow him to have no more. At this piece of information, the king looked very grave, and observed that, in this one particular, the Doctor's religion seemed to be a little too severe; "and I fear," said he, "you will hardly get my people to accept that part of it."

As soon as Dr. Livingstone had fixed up his diminutive dwelling at Mabotza, he dispatched one of the king's subjects with a letter to his father-in-law Moffatt, giving a concise outline of his recent adventures and discoveries, and stating what agreeable arrangements he had made with King Mosielely. As soon as Mrs. Livingstone heard that her husband had stationed himself at Mabotza, she expressed her determination to go thither; and her father having obtained the loan of a vehicle from an English gentleman residing at Kuruman, he immediately set out with his daughter for the dwelling-place of her husband. They performed the journey in six days, during which time Mrs. Livingstone endured many hardships, but her affection for

ENCOUNTERING FOUR LIONS.



her husband sustained her in every trial. The joy of the Doctor on the arrival of his beloved wife at Mabotza, may be more easily imagined than described. She was the first European female who had ever traveled so far into the interior of Africa; and the toils and dangers of the journey were so great, that had the Doctor been advised of her intention to come he would not have given his consent.

For two years Dr. Livingstone devoted all his attention to his missionary duties at Mabotza, with what success it is not our business in this work to inquire, as we have undertaken only to give a history of his travels and geographical discoveries.

In May, 1851, the Doctor considered himself called to make another tour. Two of Mrs. Livingstone's sisters were sent for, to be her companions during his absence. His intention now, was to pursue a direct northerly course, along the eastern borders of the Kalahari desert, until interrupted by some impassable obstacle. He was accompanied on this march by a Mabotza man named Lehumi, who had learned to use the rifle with considerable skill, and was, in all respects, a very serviceable and trustworthy fellow.

For several hundred miles, Dr. Livingstone followed up nearly the same route which he had taken formerly, in his tour to Bamangwato; but he avoided King Sicoma's dominions, by adhering to the side of the desert. The Doctor and his servant Lehumi were obliged to subsist on herbs, wild fruits, and the flesh of animals which were victimized by their rifle.

At the end of twenty days, they arrived at the river Zouga, which takes a northwesterly course, beyond the country of the Bayeye, and after making a turn to the westward, empties into the eastern extremity of Lake Ngami. Crossing this river, which happened to be fordable at that time, they still held on due northward, and arrived, on the 28th day of May, at the settlement of a very remarkable race of people called Bakoba, who are real Quakers in principle, refusing to fight in any circumstances. The reason they give for their non-combative practice is, that some of their ancestors once attempted to fight with bows made of the brittle stalks of the *palma christi*; and as these weapons broke, they never attempted any warlike enterprise afterward. This explanation of a peaceable disposition will remind us of that of Captain Bobadil, when he quietly received a sound cudgeling.

The Doctor was much delighted to find that his knowledge of the Bechuana language enabled him to hold converse with every tribe that he visited. The language used by the people inhabiting a vast extent of country in Southern and Central Africa, is nearly identical, being varied only by a few provincialisms. This is one fortunate circumstance for travelers.

CHAPTER XXIII.

HARD TRAVELING—THE DOCTOR TRAVERSES A VAST MARSH INFESTED BY SERPENTS — THE LARGEST VENOMOUS SNAKE IN THE WORLD—VARIETIES OF AFRICAN SERPENTS—THE PUFF ADDER—THE SPITTING SNAKE — THE DOCTOR SLEEPS AMONG THE SNAKES AND CROCODILES—HE IS ATTACKED BY A RAGING FEVER—SINKS TO THE EARTH AND GIVES UP TO DIE, BUT IS SAVED BY HIS FAITHFUL AFRICAN SERVANT.

BEYOND 20° south latitude, Dr. Livingstone entered a country which was little better than a marsh, and it appeared to have been recently under water. The soil was so soft and moist, that the feet of the travelers disappeared beneath the surface at every step. The exhalations from this ground were most offensive and sickening, being a kind of miasma which is very suggestive of fevers. On this account the Doctor named a small stream, which pursues its sluggish course northwesterly through the morass, *Fever River*. This river seemed to be a nursery of crocodiles, as many which appeared not to have reached their full size were sunning themselves on the oozy banks, or exercising themselves with clumsy gambols in the shallow water.

Serpents of various kinds were likewise very numerous, and some of them were of a prodigious size. The Doctor observed one in particular, which had just succeeded in swallowing some animal, and was lying in a torpid state, as snakes of all kinds do when they have taken more dinner than they can easily digest. This reptile was considerably thicker than a large stove-pipe, and must have been eighteen feet in length. However, the Doctor saw much larger serpents afterward. This one was of the species called *Python Natalensis*; so called, because the first specimen seen by a European was discovered near Port Natal, on the southeastern coast of Africa. The natives assert that the bite of this huge serpent is venomous in the highest degree, causing almost instant death. If this account is correct, it presents a new fact to natural historians, who generally believe that no very large snake is poisonous.

Another dangerous serpent, which infests all parts of Africa, and which is particularly abundant in the marshy region which we are now speaking of, is the puff-adder. True, it never bites unless provoked or disturbed; but it is so excessively intrusive, and packs itself away in such odd and unexpected places, that it is very difficult to avoid coming in contact with it at all times. It occasionally insinuates itself between the folds of a garment, or takes possession of a vacant boot, and fixes its fatal tooth in the hand or foot which interrupts its repose. The bite of this serpent is said to be incurable.

The marshy districts of Africa literally swarm with

DANGERS OF LION HUNTING.





snakes of many different species, such as the "sheep-stinger," boom-slang or tree snake, the ring-throat, the spitting snake, the black snake, &c., &c. Some of these are quite harmless, and others are more or less venomous.

The spuig-slang, or spitting snake, is held in great dread by the natives and colonists. It never bites, but throws a jet of liquid poison from its jaws to the distance of ten feet; and should one drop happen to fall into the eye of a person, the loss of that eye is inevitable.

The native Africans pretend to have many infallible cures for the bites of serpents. One of these is a small white bean, which is said to adhere to the wound until all the poison is extracted. It is pretended that the blood of the turtle is a certain antidote for snake poison, and several respectable travelers seem to favor this supposition. Dr. Livingstone states that he has never seen any proof of its efficacy.

As a general thing, no snake will bite a human being without provocation. A knowledge of this fact will relieve much of the terror which some persons might feel when traveling through a country abounding with these reptiles. Dr. Livingstone has often slept on the ground, in places where serpents were crawling around him and over him in every direction; and although he knew some of these creatures to be venomous, he felt that he was safe so long as he should lie still. They sometimes appeared to touch his face caressingly, producing a

thrill of horror in every nerve; and, at such times, he could scarcely muster fortitude enough to remain quiet.

The Doctor, while on this part of his journey, realized the truth of the proverb, that "misery makes us acquainted with strange bed-fellows." For several nights in succession he was obliged to lie in the marsh-mud, which was of such a waterish consistency, that every thread of his clothing was saturated. To keep his watch dry, he was obliged to place it in his arm-pit. At the distance of a few feet from his oozy couch, a young crocodile or aligator, five or six feet in length, was snoring lustily. Occasionally, a huge bull-frog, mistaking him for the trunk of a fallen tree, would leap upon his breast, and utter its usual exclamation, "che-oons!" giving a startling interruption to his nap, if he happened to have succeeded so far in his pursuit of slumber under difficulties. Then half a dozen frolicsome snakes would chase each other backward and forward over his prostrate body. Not unfrequently would he be aroused by a touch on the cheek or forehead by the cold nose of some quadruped, a jackall or hyena probably, with a view to the solution of the problem whether he was dead or sleeping. These last-named intruders were always to be driven away by a shrill exclamation, a blow or a kick, to satisfy them that life had not yet departed. The fetid and unwholesome smell of the marsh mud was one of the most disagreeable incidents of this kind of out-door lodging.

With truly primitive and apostolic humility, Dr. Livingstone stretched himself on the same spacious couch

which accommodated his faithful servant Lehumi. Here was a shining example for some of the proud and pompous followers of the meek and lowly Nazarene.

The marshy district threatened to be interminable. Three days had already been consumed in passing over it, and, on the morning of the fourth day, the same kind of ground (if ground it might be called,) was seen before them. At noon the miasma became almost suffocating, and the Doctor felt that he could not endure it much longer. In fact, about three o'clock P. M., he was seized with giddiness and fainting, and sunk on the moist earth at the feet of Lehumi, whose physical condition was not much better than his master's. This faithful fellow used all his powers of eloquence to revive the Doctor's drooping energies, and to urge him forward; representing that, in all likelihood, they would soon come to a better country, and perhaps to some inhabited district.

Dr. Livingstone, whose "spirit was still willing though the flesh was weak," arose to his feet at Lehumi's solicitation, and tottered along, supported on the shoulder of his devoted attendant. He recognized in his own case all the symptoms of a violent fever; but he felt an assurance that his hour had not yet come, because his work was not finished.

CHAPTER XXIV.

FROG DIET—ARRIVAL AT A VILLAGE OF CIVILIZED AFRICANS — A FERTILE COUNTRY — IMMENSE FRUIT TREES — VEGETABLE GINGERBREAD — NATIVE ARTS AND ARTISTS—KALAI O MUSIC—PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF THE KALAI O—THEIR IGNORANCE OF FIRE-ARMS—THE KING DISAPPROVES OF THEM—KING BOABMEKA'S WIVES — THE KALAI O REFUSE TO ANSWER ANY RELIGIOUS QUESTIONS.

ACCORDING to Lehumi's encouraging prediction, a march of two hours brought the exhausted travelers to an improved country, where there were several fine rivulets of pure water, and some herbage fit for food. While traveling over the morass, for the last few days, Livingstone and Lehumi had no provisions but frogs, which (for want of any cooking appliances), they were obliged to eat raw and almost alive. They now came to a stream of considerable size, which afterward proved to be the Leeambe. This river connects with the Zambezi in latitude $17^{\circ} 24'$ south, longitude $25^{\circ} 40'$ east from Greenwich. Finding that the Leeambe at this place runs northward, with slight variations, the Doctor concluded to follow the course of that river. On the evening of June 2nd he arrived at the village

of Kalaio, situated more than five hundred miles further to the north than any African traveler, starting from the southern coast, had ever penetrated. The people of Kalaio were the most civilized race of Africans that Dr. Livingstone had ever met with. Not only the inhabitants, but the country, showed the most gratifying improvement. The fertility of the land surpassed any thing of the kind that the Doctor had ever witnessed. Nearly all the trees produced fruits of an edible quality, though some of them were not yet ripe. The trees in this part of Africa are also of a very large size; one, in particular, which bears a fruit resembling an apple, is of stupendous magnitude. By Dr. Livingstone's estimate, one of these trees extended its branches over a space equal to one hundred and fifty feet in diameter. The palms of this region bear a fruit which, when soaked in water, tastes precisely like gingerbread.

The inhabitants of Kalaio cultivate a species of grain much smaller than maize, but growing on a stalk of the same kind. They likewise raise tobacco, watermelons, calabashes, beans, and various other vegetables. The people of this region have but few towns or villages; each family dwells alone in a patriarchal style; and every homestead is surrounded by high palisades, as a protection against wild beasts. Dr. Livingstone considered that there were about one hundred inhabitants to every square mile.

The dress and arms of these people are not unlike those of the more northern tribes of Bechuanas; but in

personal appearance they are far superior to the latter. In stature they are generally tall, their forms are perfectly symmetrical; in the outlines of their features they resemble Europeans; their complexion is a shade or two lighter than that of the Hottentots, and their hair is long, black, and straight. In short, they do not belong to the negro family; but rather bear some similitude to the Moors of the northern coast. These people practice some of the arts of civilization. They manufacture various articles of copper and iron in quite a skillful manner. They have likewise a variety of musical instruments, constructed by themselves, and from which they produce a peculiar, but not disagreeable melody. They brew beer from grain, very much in the European manner.

Their principal article of diet is a sort of hasty pudding, made by boiling meal in water. This they eat with milk, precisely as the Americans eat their "mush." The Kalaios manufacture an excellent kind of crockery-ware, of which many of their domestic and culinary utensils are fashioned. They are not inordinate flesh-eaters, like the Bechuanas and other tribes of negroes; on the contrary, they use animal food but sparingly, and some of them dispense with it altogether.

The king of this tribe or nation is Boabmeka, and he was the first African monarch deserving of the name that Dr. Livingstone had ever met with. He was a very tall man, of a mild but commanding aspect, of dignified manner and excellent understanding. He asked the Doctor many shrewd and sensible questions



JENKI KILLED BY A RHINOCEROS.

respecting England, as he had received some account of that country from the wandering natives of his own land, but had never seen any European before.

The Kalaios were totally unacquainted with the use of fire-arms, and the performance of the Doctor's rifle astounded them. However, the king remarked (with much truth perhaps), that it was a "bad thing;" and he hoped that such instruments might never be introduced among his countrymen. As an evidence of a better state of society in this district, the Doctor observed that both sexes were employed in tilling the ground; whereas, among the negro tribes, the women are compelled to do all that kind of labor.

Nevertheless, polygamy is practiced by this nation; and King Boabmeka had no less than one hundred and ten wives. When a king dies, the oldest son of his favorite wife is successor to the crown. The Doctor was convinced that these people have some religious impressions, but he was unable to discover what they are. When he attempted to question any of the natives on such topics, the answer invariably was, "Be still!" pronounced in an awful and reverential tone. Hence he judged that it was a part of their religion to say nothing about it. This peculiarity of theirs was very embarrassing to Dr. Livingstone, who wished to give them spiritual instruction. They were as much opposed to the hearing of his creed as they were to a declaration of their own, and so all theological discussion was impracticable.

CHAPTER XXV.

DR. LIVINGSTONE VISITS ANOTHER INTERESTING TRIBE
—A NOVEL KIND OF MONEY—DRESSES, MANNERS,
AND CUSTOMS OF THE KALAIOS — NONDESCRIPT
ANIMALS—A SERPENT WITH FOUR LEGS—ANOTHER
SINGULAR SNAKE—THE TSETSE FLY—ITS VENOMOUS
POWERS—ITS DESTRUCTIVE OPERATIONS—STRANGE
FACTS CONCERNING IT.

FOR several weeks Dr. Livingstone's state of health would not permit him to travel. The fever he had contracted while passing over the marshy district proved very obstinate, although he was skillfully treated by some of the native physicians. But his constitution is almost impregnable; otherwise he would have fallen, long before this time, under the malign influences of the climate, as almost all other African travelers have done before him.

While he remained at Kalaio, he ascertained that the inhabitants of this country had many wise laws and politic institutions, which would not discredit any nation of Europe.

They are not a warlike people, but appear to hold martial achievements in great contempt or abhorrence. They have such a nice sense of justice and equity that

they will by no means make any encroachments on the territory of their neighbors; literally following up the scriptural injunction (although perhaps they never heard of it), not to covet any thing that belongs to others. Their dealings among each other are characterized by mutual confidence and good faith, which Christians would do well to imitate. No man is afraid of being cheated, and no man is cheated. No precautions are used to prevent thefts and robberies, and no thefts and robberies are committed. When one of them wishes to dispose of an article, large or small, he attaches to it a sprig of palm-branch, which signifies for sale, and leaves the article in a certain space enclosed by palisades, which answers the purpose of a market-house or bazaar. When people go to this emporium to make purchases, they select the articles which they want, and leave what they consider a fair equivalent in the place of each article; and the former owner never has any reason to be dissatisfied, although the purchaser is allowed to fix the price of the article, according to his own estimate.

The money used by this nation consists of a kind of pebbles, artificially reduced to an octagonal shape, and ground down to about one eighth of an inch in thickness. These pieces are of various sizes, and their value is rated accordingly. The money is coined under the king's authority; and the rule is, never to have more than is absolutely necessary for the convenience of the public. Although this coin might very easily be counterfeited, nothing of the kind is ever

attempted. The people are not covetous enough to be tempted to the commission of such a crime; and, indeed, they are perfectly free from all that numerous train of vices which originate in the love of money.

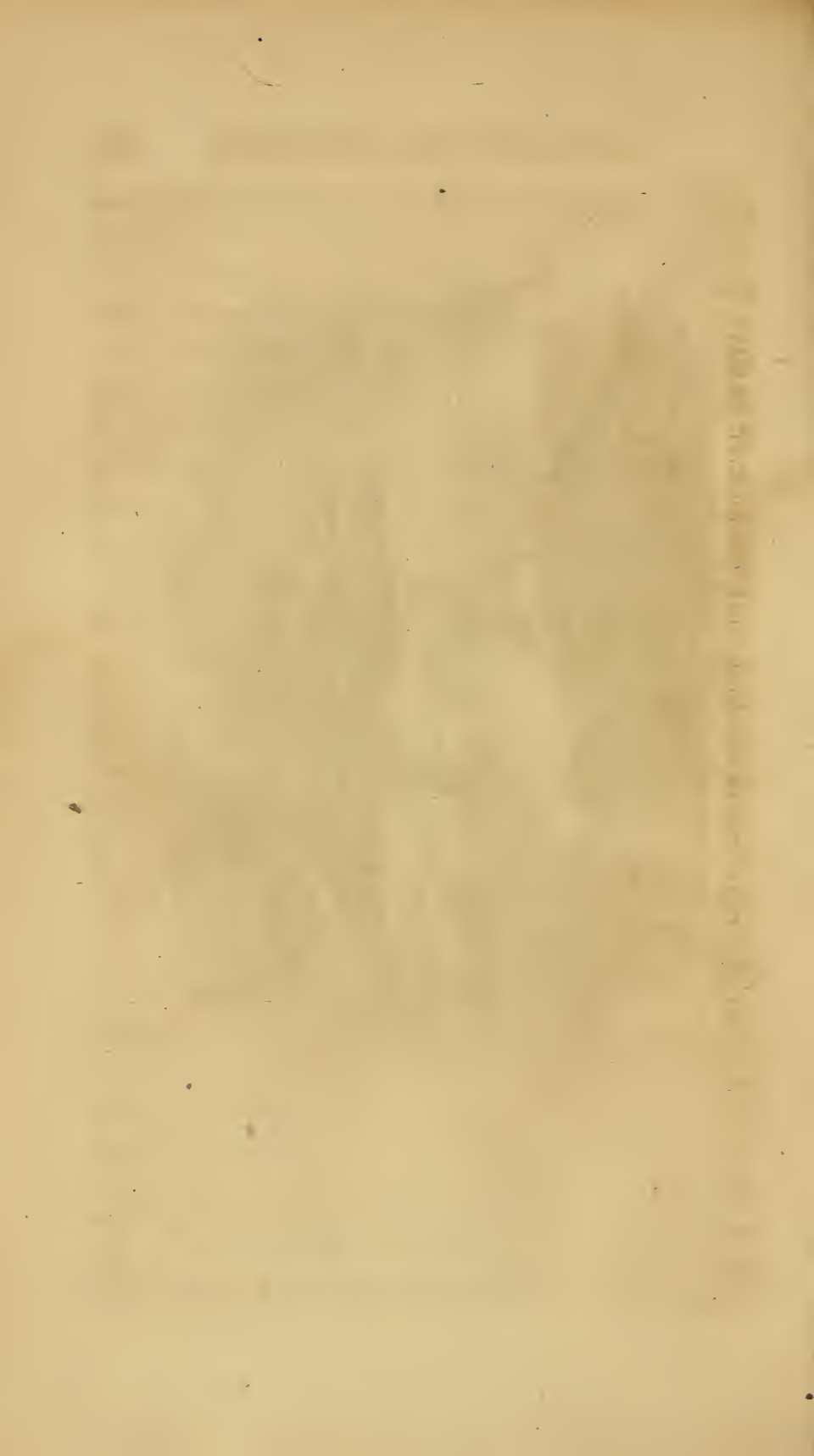
Dr. Livingstone observed that some of the women wore trinkets made of pure gold. On making inquiry, he learned that this metal was found in a district situated at the distance of about two days' journey from Kalaio. The direction of this Eldorado was to the northeastward, and is probably somewhere adjacent to Kafue river, which unites with the Zambezi in latitude $15^{\circ} 18'$ south, longitude $25^{\circ} 4'$ east from Greenwich.

In the neighborhood of Kalaio Dr. Livingstone discovered the existence of several animals which were new to him, and which have not been registered by the naturalists. Among those strange creatures may be mentioned a serpent which possesses four legs, but is never known to make any use of them. This creature is only eight or ten inches in length. Its progressive motion is like that of any other snake; its four legs striking out horizontally, two on each side, and appear to be of no more real service than the "fifth wheel to a wagon."

Another nondescript serpent exists in the Kalaio country. It is called *angara*, and usually attains the length of twelve feet. The skin is beautifully variegated, and it has on its head a horny protuberance of a reddish color, resembling the comb of a guinea-fowl. But the most singular circumstance in the history of this serpent is, that it makes a noise so like the cluck-



NATIVES HARPOONING THE HIPPOPOTAMUS—ZAMBEZI RIVER.



ing of a domestic fowl, that the natives themselves are often deceived by it. The angara lives in trees; it attacks man or beast, and its bite is usually fatal.

That dangerous snake, the cobra-di-capello, also abounds in this district, where it is called bata-leomi. This serpent is of a very malignant temper; it conceals itself under flowers and herbage, as if lying in wait to do injury. It has the power of darting itself ten or twelve feet at the object of its resentment, and the slightest scratch with one of its fangs will cause almost instant death. Its length seldom exceeds five feet.

The people of Kalaio place a high estimate on cows and oxen. Their cattle are of an enormous size; being far superior in this respect to any European breed. Dr. Livingstone saw one of their oxen which measured eight feet and a half, in a straight line, between the tips of the horns. Nevertheless, the raising of cattle is attended with great difficulty in that region, on account of the pernicious tsetse fly. This fly (*glossina morsitans*, Westw.), abounds in many parts of Africa, and is one of the most deadly and destructive insects in the world. It is seldom seen in open plains, but fixes its habitation in woods or cane-brakes, and will never go far from its place of abode. Hence cattle may be seen quietly grazing on one side of a narrow river, while the opposite bank swarms with this insect. The tsetse seldom attacks men, but on horses and cattle it inflicts a bite as fatal as that of the most poisonous reptile.

The size of this insect is somewhat less than that

of the "blue-bottle," but its wings are longer, and its body more slender. Many travelers in Africa who depended on horses or oxen for conveyance, have had all their beasts destroyed by the tsetse, and were thus compelled to abandon their undertakings. Thus this apparently insignificant insect is one of the most formidable obstacles to the exploration of the country. A party of English gentlemen who attempted an expedition to Liberia, in 1850, lost thirty-six horses, most of them valuable hunters, by the venomous attack of the tsetse fly. When a horse or ox is bitten by this insect, a general swelling immediately follows, the eyes are closed up, and the poor beast dies in horrible agony. It is truly a wonderful circumstance that men, and quadrupeds of some species, may be bitten by this fly without any serious effects. One of them often alights on the back of a man's hand, or some other exposed part of his skin, where, if allowed to settle, it inserts its proboscis sufficiently to draw blood. The wound is about as painful as the bite of a flea. As soon as the insect is satiated, it flies off, and the man experiences no ill effects afterward.

Why should the case be so different with a horse or an ox? This is a problem which physiologists and doctors of medicine may find of very difficult solution. Dr. Livingstone made a *post mortem* examination of the body of an ox, which had died from the bite of this fly. On raising the skin of the quadruped, there was a glairy appearance of the muscles. The stomach and intestines were healthy, but the heart, lungs, and liver,

were diseased. The heart, in particular, had a shriveled and collapsed appearance. The blood of the whole carcass was greatly diminished in quantity, and it was viscid and albuminous; and the hand, when plunged into it, came out without a stain. The poison seems to be conveyed by the blood to the vital organs.

CHAPTER XXVI.

THE DOCTOR PROCEEDS ON HIS JOURNEY—AN IMMENSE FOREST—ARRIVAL AT SHINTE—LARGE CITY IN CENTRAL AFRICA—NO HOPE OF CONVERTING THE NATIVES—THE LARGEST TREE IN THE WORLD—THE BAOBAB OR NWANA—ANOTHER LAKE DISCOVERED—SOURCES OF THE RIVER LEAMBEEBE OR ZAMBEZI—AWFUL THUNDER STORM—TREES STRUCK BY LIGHTNING—CURIOUS ELECTRICAL PHENOMENA—STUPIDITY OF THE DOCTOR'S SERVANT.

ON the 11th of July, Dr. Livingstone and his servant or companion Lehumi took leave of the good people of Kalaio, and resumed their route to the north, along the eastern bank of the River Leambeebe. A forest of two hundred miles in extent hemmed them in on the right, while the sluggish and almost stagnant stream bounded their path on the left. Such, with scarcely any variation, was the route of the travelers for two weeks. During this time they boarded themselves chiefly on green parrots, which flocked thickly in these forests, and proved to be much better eating than the Doctor would have expected.

On the 2nd day of August the travelers arrived at Shinte, where, to his great astonishment, the Doctor

found a city containing a population of 25,000. Here the people manufacture a kind of cloth from the wool of sheep; which cloth is not woven, but is made by a process similar to felting. There are many excellent native smiths, bell makers, and other skillful artisans in the capital of Shinte. They are acquainted with the use of copper, iron, brass, and various other metals, simple and compound. They have gold and silver in considerable abundance, but value them far below copper and iron, because the two latter are more useful for manufacturing purposes. They evidently did not believe Dr. Livingstone, when he told them that the nations beyond the great water esteemed gold and silver more highly than any other metals.

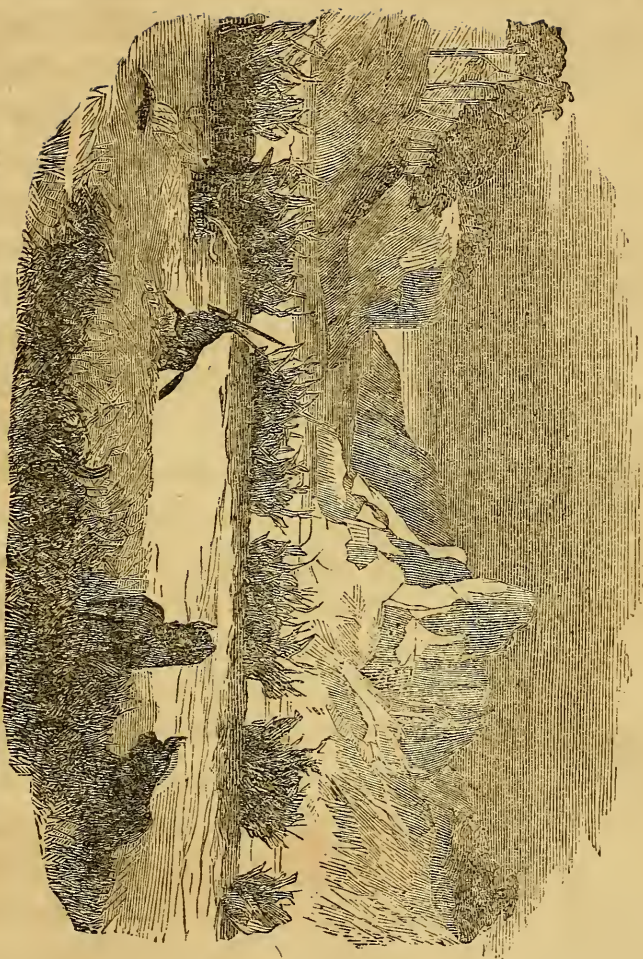
The dresses, manners, and customs of the people of Shinte are but little different from those of the Kalaios. To the Doctor's mortification and disappointment, they showed but little interest when he offered to instruct them in matters appertaining to another life. They obstinately asserted that it made little difference what people believed, if their practice was all right. The Doctor embraced this opportunity to inform them that *their* practice of having four or five wives apiece was not right. They asked him if none of the white men had an equal number of wives; the Doctor was about to answer in the negative, but remembering that there was a sect in the United States called Mormons, who took the same matrimonial liberties, he stood silent and embarrassed. The king then said, "If

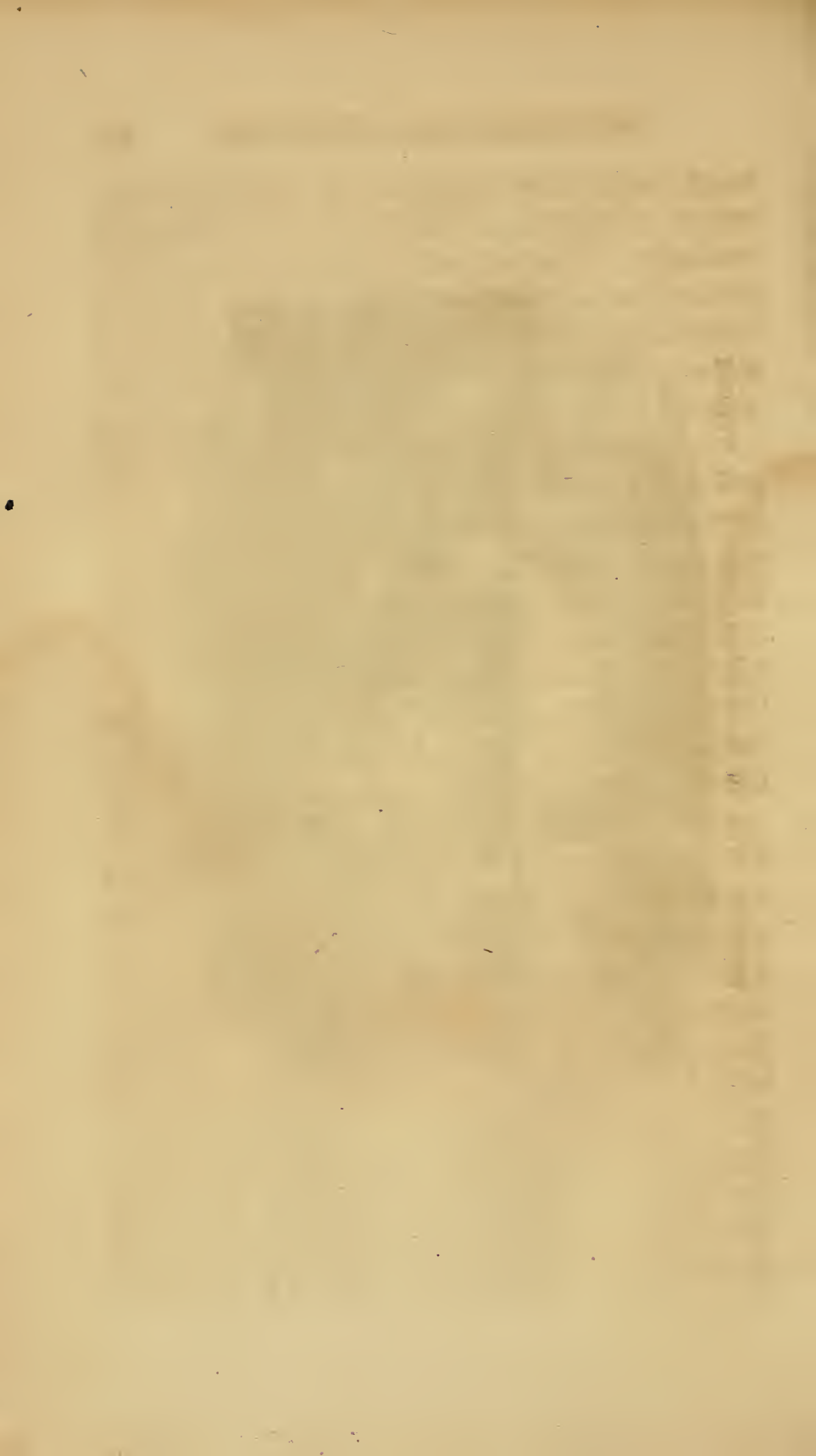
your own people do these things, why do you not preach to them and make them better, before you come to us?"

The Doctor, finding that it would be a waste of labor to attempt to sow the seed of religious knowledge among these people, resolved to proceed further without delay. The River Lambeebe, above Shinte, branches off into many forks. The branch which keeps the due northward direction, corresponding with the former course of the river, terminates at a lake called Dilolo, one hundred and fifty miles above Shinte. This was the only fork of the Lambeebe which the Doctor traced; but he thinks it probable that all the other forks, five in number, terminate in lakes also.

The country north of Shinte produces many baobab trees, which are probably the largest vegetable productions in the world. Dr. Livingstone says the appearance of one of these trees is like a tower of granite. He measured several, and found the trunks to be from fifteen to twenty feet in diameter near the root. The fruit of this tree, in size and shape, is not unlike a quart bottle. The pulp between the seeds has a sub-acid taste, like cream of tartar, and is used by the natives to flavor some of their messes. In other parts of Africa this tree is called *nwana*; but in the more southern districts it is comparatively rare. Northward of 12° south latitude, whole forests of the baobab are met with; and in this region they come to full perfection of growth, and attain a size which may be called stupendous. The wood of this tree is too soft and spongy to be serviceable in the arts, and it is scarcely fit for fuel. The

PITFALL AT A SPOT FREQUENTED BY WILD ANIMALS.





leaf of the baobab resembles in form that of the sycamore or buttonwood. The manner in which these trees are disposed in the forest, is the most remarkable circumstance attending them. They are always arranged in lines, or straight rows, at nearly equal distances apart, as though they had been planted by the hands of men.

About noon, on the 14th of August, the travelers experienced a thunder-storm, which surpassed all the Doctor's previous conceptions of such a natural phenomenon. The sudden appearance of the tempest was especially remarkable. About half an hour before it came up, the aspect of nature was perfectly tranquil; not a leaf was agitated, and not a cloud floated over the azure canopy. A low rumbling sound was first heard, which the travelers mistook for a herd of elephants. Then a dark smoke-like vapor began to roll over the face of the heavens, approaching the zenith from the northwestern boundary of the horizon. Flashes of lightning now began to succeed each other rapidly, and the voice of the thunder, which could no longer be mistaken, was heard in a continuous roar. In a few minutes the skies became as black as sackcloth, except when the frequent flashes of lightning imparted to them a lurid and preternatural glare. At times the whole heavens appeared to be on fire. The peals of thunder followed each other with astounding rapidity. Several of the gigantic trees lately described by us were stricken within view of our travelers, and one of the largest was shivered to pieces directly in their path.

Dr. Livingstone had, on this occasion, a good opportunity to observe the operations of the electric fluid. At times, when a tree was stricken, the appearance was as if the flash proceeded from the tree to the cloud, instead of being discharged from the cloud and falling on the tree. At other times, a flash would seem to proceed from the tree and another from the cloud, at the same instant; the two flashes would unite in mid-air, and the detonation would be heard at that moment. Again a flash would proceed from the clouds, and at the same time two flashes would shoot out from two trees at a considerable distance apart, and all three flashes would come together with a deafening report. The trees would be set on fire, or shivered to pieces, at the moment when the flashes met together.

The Doctor observed that his colored companion Lehumi appeared to witness this magnificent and terrific scene without any emotion whatever. Sometimes, indeed, when the lightning made "a good hit," he would clap his hands, and make the ejaculation "Ah!" expressive of approbation, as a boy might do when applauding some particularly good performance in a circus. But happening to receive a slight shock from the electric current, he began to realize his danger and suddenly prostrated himself on the earth.

CHAPTER XXVII.

DR. LIVINGSTONE FINDS A CIVILIZED NATION IN THE INTERIOR OF AFRICA—BONE PLOWS—UNIQUE HOUSES—ARRIVAL AT THE CITY OF BERMEGAI—ITS SITUATION, POPULATION, ARCHITECTURE—CLOTH MANUFACTURE—METALS PROHIBITED—DRESSES—WHAT THE COLOR OF A COAT SIGNIFIES—A BLACK COAT DISGRACEFUL.

THE general appearance of the country varied but little within the space of two hundred miles to the northward of Lake Dilolo, at the head waters of the Lambebe. The Doctor now came to a district in which the land appeared to be in a better state of cultivation than any he had seen since he left Cape Colony. He discovered many rural habitations made of logs, very similar in appearance to some of the farm-houses in the United States; except that the roofs of the African buildings were always shaped like a pyramid, terminating in a point at the top. He saw several natives engaged in plowing the land with a plow of quite an artificial shape. He afterwards discovered that the plow-share was made of the breast-bone of a huge bird of the condor species, much larger than the ostrich, which is found in some of the forests still further to the north.

The farms or plantations were enclosed by hedges of wicker-work. The whole country had the appearance of being inhabited by civilized people. Some of the inhabitants were seen at a distance, attending to various agricultural operations. These people appeared to be decently clothed in garments made of some kind of cloth. They were observed to have vehicles of various kinds drawn by zebras; the wheels of the carriages were of that kind called "trucks," made by cutting segments from the ends of large round logs.

Between the farms were roads or avenues planted on each side with fruit trees, which afforded a delightful shade for the traveler. When the Doctor and his servant had proceeded about a mile on one of these roads, they began to meet numbers of the inhabitants of the country, some of whom were on foot, and some rode in a clumsy kind of wagon, about six feet in length, made of wicker-work, with truck wheels, and drawn by zebras, oxen, or antelopes. The appearance of two such outlandish persons as Dr. Livingstone and his man Lehumi (who were both in European dresses), must have amazed these people, but they were too well-bred, in their way, to exhibit any signs of surprise.

At four o'clock P. M. August 16th, the travelers arrived at the capital of this nation, called Bermegai, situated in the Valley Londa, latitude $7^{\circ} 44'$ south, longitude $26^{\circ} 18'$ east from Greenwich. The city of Bermegai is about twelve miles in circumference, and contains 40,870 inhabitants. The houses never exceed



DAMARAS TRIBE.



one story in height, and are all precisely of the same dimensions; each building being perfectly square, and measuring 15 feet 8 inches, English measurement, on each side. The palace of the king is not distinguished by its size from the dwellings of his subjects. The roofs are all of a pyramidal shape. The houses are built of logs squared by chopping, the ends of the logs being morticed or dove-tailed together at the corners. Each log lies flat on the one beneath it, leaving no interstices. Every log is fastened down in its place by means of wooden pins, driven through holes of about an inch in diameter, bored for the purpose. The roofs are likewise made of logs fastened together in a similar manner, but inclining toward the centre, so as to come to an apex or point at the top. These logs are so nicely fitted, that the houses never leak.

The people of Bermegai use but few carpenters' tools, viz., hatchets, augers, and beetles, or large wooden hammers. Their tools are all made of wood, bone, or ivory; as this nation is prevented, by some superstition or prejudice, from using metals for any purpose. They have not learned the use of the saw; hence they have no planks or boards, and the floors of their dwellings are made of hewn logs.

The inhabitants of Bermegai manufacture several kinds of cloth, all of which are made by the felting process, as they are unacquainted with the art of weaving. In the manufacture of these cloths they use both wool and a species of cotton which grows wild in various parts of Africa, but is cultivated by them as an

important material. The cotton cloth is made by means of a certain gum, which causes the flocs to adhere together, and likewise makes the fabric waterproof. This cloth is of a very light and delicate texture, and is chiefly used for the clothing of women and children. The woolen cloth is made by spreading out the fleece in a thin layer, and afterward pouring hot water over it, until it shrinks up, the filaments of the wool becoming firmly interlocked together, until a fabric in consistency much like the body of a hat is produced. The cloths thus made are dyed of various colors, and can scarcely be distinguished from woven goods of European manufacture.

The dress of the men consists of a long garment, shaped much like a frock coat, which reaches below the knee, and is fastened behind by loops or strings, set at equal distances like buttons. The legs are covered by long stockings, made of felted cloth, and diversified with black and white perpendicular stripes, about an inch broad.

The color of the *makoba*, or upper garment, is various, to indicate the profession, office, or occupation of the wearer. The king and his near relations wear green. The officers of state, and public men in general, wear yellow coats or makobas. Farmers and cultivators of the soil wear blue. Red is the color appropriated to carpenters and other mechanics. White belongs to the priestly order, which (Dr. Livingstone aptly remarks) is the very reverse of the practice of Christian clergymen. Black makobas are worn as a

sort of penalty by such persons as have made themselves liable to public censure. Hence, among the people of Bermegai, it is considered very reproachful to say of a man, "*Kinda daga mimbak orgi makoba*," "He deserves to wear a black coat."

The dress of the women consists of a loose robe of light cotton cloth, reaching almost to the feet, completely concealing the outlines of the figure; and yet the appearance is not ungraceful. The arms are covered with a tight casing of cloth, striped with various colors. The robes of the women are invariably white. Both sexes, and people of all classes, have their hands and feet uncovered.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

THE KINGDOM OF PALAHOI—THE INHABITANTS—THEIR COMPLEXION — THEIR LANGUAGE — THEIR GOOD-BREEDING — NO STARING AT STRANGERS — THE DOCTOR SEEKS AN AUDIENCE WITH THE KING—OBJECTIONS TO HIS BLACK COAT—THE KING'S OPINIONS—THE STEAM-ENGINE A HUMBUG—THE ART OF PRINTING DITTO—THE KING PUZZLES THE DOCTOR, BUT GIVES HIM PERMISSION TO PREACH.

THE city of Bermegai is the metropolis of a kingdom called Palahoi, lying in the Valley Londa, on both sides of the river Casai, and comprising about 4,600 square English miles. This region is governed by a king called Dabul-Behzad; Dabul being a general title for kings, like Pharaoh and Ptolemy among the Egyptians, and Behzad the proper name of the individual. The royal residence is at the city of Bermegai; which is likewise the principal manufacturing town of the nation.

The complexion of the people of this region is about as light as that of the Moors. They have straight hair and regular features, chiefly of the Grecian outline. Their language does not resemble that of the Bechuanas; for the latter, with its various dialects, is

confined to the negro races. However, as the Bechuanas sometimes trade with the citizens of Bermegai, there are persons residing in this city who perform the service of interpreters to the representatives of both nations, when they have occasion to communicate with each other.

Not only Bechuanas, but Bushmen often find their way to this capital, where they purchase various articles of Bermegaian manufacture, and supply the citizens of this place with ivory and ostrich feathers in return. From these wanderers the people of Bermegai had often heard of white men coming from a far country; but they supposed all the accounts of these "pale-faced monsters" to be fabulous. The appearance of Dr. Livingstone among them, therefore, occasioned much astonishment; but it is a part of their etiquette never to show any signs of surprise or admiration at the appearance of strangers. The Doctor, therefore, passed through the city without having a retinue of idle vagabonds at his heels, according to the universal custom in the civilized cities of Europe and America.

Having addressed himself to several inhabitants without succeeding in making himself understood, the Doctor was conducted by an elderly citizen, with a strikingly benevolent aspect, to the dwelling of a Bechuana interpreter. He immediately engaged the services of this man, and accompanied by him, sought the residence of one of the king's chief officers, to whom he declared his wish to be presented to his majesty. The official gentleman gave him a stare in which an

expression of surprise was mixed with some severity, and then answered through the interpreter :

“It is not usual with our king to hold personal communication with a criminal.”

It was now the Doctor's turn to be astonished ; and he sought an explanation from the interpreter, who stood by with a broad grin on his countenance. This worthy dragoman informed the Doctor that among these people, black coats were worn only as badges of vice and infamy ; and that as the Doctor appeared in a garment of that hue, he was very naturally suspected of having committed some disgraceful or wicked act in his own country. Dr. Livingstone directed the interpreter to inform the king's officer, that in his country the color of a man's coat was a matter of no importance, but that black was generally worn by those who pretended to superior intelligence, virtue, and sanctity.

The man in office appeared to be satisfied with this exculpation, and immediately consented to conduct the Doctor to the presence of the king. They found his majesty disengaged, and the Doctor with the assistance of his Bechuanā interpreter, proceeded to explain the purpose of his mission. King Behzad answered very graciously, that if his white brother could teach his subjects any thing which would be useful to them, his services would be duly acknowledged and rewarded. “I have heard,” said the king, “that the white men possess many arts with which we are unacquainted. Will my white brother tell me what they are?”

In answer to this royal interrogatory, Dr. Living-

stone spoke of the steam-engine, and described its almost miraculous performances. When he had concluded, the king answered, "You say that this wonderful thing made of iron, will perform the work of thousands of men. Is it therefore no longer necessary in your country for poor men to toil that they may have food?" The Doctor was obliged to confess that thousands of his countrymen were still compelled to labor long and hard for a wretched subsistence. "In my country," said the king, "no man kills himself with labor, and yet all have food in abundance. I see that your iron wonder-worker is *e loga gila*," (*i. e.* a humbug).

The Doctor then spoke of the art of printing, and was able to make himself intelligible, because these people have a written language of their own. He spoke enthusiastically of the way in which writings might be multiplied with inconceivable rapidity by the printing press." The king heard him out, and then said, "You have told me what good this great writing machine does, but does it do no *harm*?"

Here the Doctor was again taken by surprise, but honestly admitted that the printing press did almost as much harm as good, being as much under the control of bad men as good ones, and that it was often used to subvert truth, confirm error, and facilitate the operations of every kind of imposture and villainy. "I see," said the king, "that your great writing machine is *e loga gila mokon*." (A greater humbug than the other.)

Dr. Livingstone then signified to the king that it was

not his purpose or desire to instruct people in the inventions and devices of this world. His mission, he said, was to teach the truths of that eternal world to which we are introduced by death. "Have you ever visited that world?" said King Behzad. "Never," answered the Doctor. "Then," said the king, "I suspect that you know as little about it as we do."

After a few moments spent in reflection, the king resumed: "My white brother may tell his belief to my subjects; if they like his creed better than their own, they have liberty to choose for themselves."

CHAPTER XXIX.

RELIGIOUS NOTIONS OF THE BERMEGAIS—A RELIGION WITHOUT CHURCHES—PRIESTS WITHOUT SALARIES—SINGULAR MODE OF INTERMENT—MODEL GOVERNMENT—JURISPRUDENCE—MODE OF ELECTING PUBLIC OFFICERS—WRITINGS—EXTRAORDINARY ALPHABET—WRITING MATERIALS — NO BOOK-MAKING — THESE PEOPLE PROVE UNCONVERTABLE.

DR. LIVINGSTONE found that the people of Bermegai had very correct ideas of the Deity. They believe in one God only, and regard him as a being of infinite wisdom and power. They believe also in the immortality of the human soul, and that it exists immediately after death in a human form. When the Doctor spoke to them of the resurrection of the material body, they steadfastly refused their assent to that doctrine, declaring it to be contrary to reason and incomprehensible. They have some traditionary notions of a general deluge, but profess to know nothing of the particulars of that great event. They have no churches or temples, but perform all their acts of worship in their own houses, or in groves appropriated to that purpose.

The priests are supported by the voluntary contributions of the public, and are not allowed to receive

any fees or perquisites for the exercise of their sacerdotal duties ; because, as they think, the sacred things of religion should not be a marketable commodity. The religion of these people is of so simple a nature, and involves so few dogmas, that there is no occasion for disagreement or disputations ; consequently there are no sects or schisms in their church, but all are of one faith. They never show any ill-feeling or impatience when any person expresses religious opinions different from their own. Even the freethinkers and atheists of their own nation meet with kind and gentle treatment, being objects of compassion rather than hatred ; the consequence is, that atheism and other religious errors die out among them for want of opposition.

The inhabitants of this kingdom bury their dead in an upright position, not from any superstitious motives, but merely in obedience to a secular law of the nation, founded, it may seem, on economical principles ; as a dead body in a perpendicular attitude occupies less superficial space than it would if lying horizontally at full length. In consequence of this arrangement, one square foot of ground is sufficient for the interment of a single body. They do not *dig* graves, as is customary with us, but bore them with a large auger contrived for the purpose. In this way, a hole is made in the earth about ten feet deep, with a diameter proportioned to the size of the corpse ; and in this narrow pit the body is placed in a standing posture ; the pit is then filled up, and the funeral rites are completed. No expensive or ostentatious ceremonies, in connection with burials,

are permitted. It is a maxim with these people, that the soul of a man is all of him, and the body nothing. They do not expect that the inanimate corpse will ever be revived and glorified, and they therefore feel under no obligations to pay undue observances to the ashes of the dead.

The government of these people is a patriarchal monarchy; but, in case of malfeasance in office, the king may be deposed, if the facts are clearly proved against him. They have an institution similar to the trial by jury; the courts being each composed of sixteen judges or magistrates, ten of whom must agree together before a verdict can be rendered. Four magistrates are chosen or elected every second year by a magisterial college, consisting of forty-five members. The candidates for election must be proposed by ten respectable citizens, who vouch for the good behavior of the candidate if elected. If thirty members of the forty-five agree to his admission, he forthwith becomes one of this magisterial body. The four oldest members of that body retire from office at the end of every second year, and as four new ones are elected, the number of magistrates is always the same. If one of these dies, only three retire at the end of two years; and if more than four happen to die within that period, just so many new candidates are elected as will suffice to keep up the regular number of forty-five.

Sixteen of these magistrates are selected by the chief of the magisterial college, to act as judges or jurors in any particular case; and they are not allowed to re-

ceive compensations of any kind for their services, lest they should be swayed by mercenary motives. The priests, magistrates, and all other public men, the king himself inclusive, maintain themselves by means of some useful handicraft occupation.

The people of Bermegai have a written language. Their alphabet, if we may so call it, consists of about two hundred and eighty letters or characters; each character represents an entire syllable, and these syllables, variously combined, constitute all the words in the language. Many of their words bear a striking resemblance to Hebrew words of the same signification; hence Dr. Livingstone conjectures that this nation is of Israelitish origin. The writings of this country are executed on the prepared leaves of a certain variety of the palm-tree. By some process not explained, these leaves are bleached and made flexible, after which they are cut into quadrangular pieces about four inches long and two and a half inches broad. These pieces are fastened together at the ends so as to form a roll. The letters are traced by means of a kind of pencil, made of a particular sort of red clay mixed with some resinous substance. These writings are easily erased; but this is a matter of little consequence, as none of the manuscripts are intended to be permanent. There is no such thing as authorship in this country. There is no written history, and no kind of literature; and the art of writing is used only for the ordinary occasions of business, and for epistolatory correspondence in general. The natives appear to have never conceived

the idea of making books; and when Dr. Livingstone suggested to some of them the utility of composing volumes on various subjects, they usually answered with an exclamation nearly synonymous with the English word "Fudge!"

Dr. Livingstone remained among these people for two years, availing himself of the king's permission to instruct them in matters of religion. But he realized the truth of the scriptural remark that "there is more hope of a fool than of a man who is wise in his own conceit." The inhabitants of Bermegai appeared to be quite satisfied with their stock of theological information, and were very tardy in their reception of new doctrines. The negroes themselves, according to the Doctor's report, are more susceptible of religious instruction; for they know themselves to be fools, and therefore have no pretext for rejecting tuition; but the more refined inhabitants of Bermegai, having a great conceit of their own wisdom, are so much the less likely to discover their need of a spiritual instructor.

CHAPTER XXX.

DR. LIVINGSTONE STARTS FROM BERMEGAI ON A TOUR TO THE WEST—RIVER CHEEKAPA—PRODIGIOUS SERPENTS—THEIR CRUEL PRACTICES—THE DOCTOR'S NARROW ESCAPE—LARGE CATERPILLARS—LIZARDS—BUTTERFLIES—HUGE CROCODILES—HOW THEY SEIZE THEIR PREY—THEIR MATCHLESS STRENGTH—A CROCODILE SHOT—APPALLING DEATH-SCENE.

IN December, 1851, Dr. Livingstone began to despair of making any great improvement in the religious condition of the people of Bermegai; and he still felt an impulse to extend his researches through the country—an impulse which, for many months past, it had cost him some trouble to resist.

On Christmas Day, all his preparations having been completed, he took leave of his friends in Bermegai, and attended by his old companion Lehumi, who had never left him, he started on a westerly route, following the course of a stream which afterward proved to be the river Cheekapa. He traveled two hundred miles westward through a country abounding with vegetation and animal life, but nearly destitute of human inhabitants. In this region he saw many serpents of an enormous size; some of them he judged to be fully one



SCENE WITNESSED BY DR. LIVINGSTONE.
NEAR ZAMBEZI RIVER.

hundred feet in length, and of proportionable thickness. Several times he saw these monster snakes feeding on living animals, antelopes, zebras, &c.; and in one instance he saw a snake devour a lioness and her three whelps. The mode in which these serpents capture their prey is very curious. In the neighborhood of some stream or fountain to which the quadrupeds come to drink, the serpent lies at full length, artfully concealing himself under the rank herbage or dense grass, which is often two feet or more in height. He so arranges himself, that the beasts in going to the water must pass over his body. As soon as one of the unsuspecting creatures touches him, he suddenly raises his head and tail at the same moment, wrapping himself around his victim with the quickness of thought, and continues to wind himself, with fold after fold, around the wretched animal. As soon as the coil is completed, the snake begins to use his power of compression,—breaking the bones of his prisoner, and mashing the flesh almost to the consistence of jelly. In the meanwhile, the tortured animal utters the most piteous cries, expressive of its unimaginable anguish. When the body of the beast is thus reduced to a shapeless mass of bruised flesh and fractured bones, the snake lubricates it all over with his saliva, and then proceeds to swallow the carcass; a task which he seldom accomplishes without great difficulty; so that he is often engaged for hours in taking down the huge morsel, which is always swallowed entire.

When the feat of swallowing its prey is accomplished,

a large protuberance is observed on the body of the snake; and this gradually grows less as the process of digestion advances; the serpent in the mean time remaining torpid and utterly defenseless. While he is in this state, ostriches not unfrequently pick out his eyes, and hyenas devour large portions of his tail with entire impunity.

Dr. Livingstone and his servant were in great dread of these gigantic serpents; but it appeared afterward that they are inclined by habit or instinct to banquet on quadrupeds rather than on the human species. On one occasion the Doctor almost struck his foot against the head of one of them, as it lay with its body concealed among some thorn bushes, while its glistening eyes were watching the movements of a herd of camelpards feeding at a distance. The head of this serpent was almost as large as that of a horse, and was not unlike it in formation.

In these equatorial regions Nature seems to operate on a magnified scale, for here all animal and vegetable productions are of the most enlarged dimensions. Even the caterpillars, which swarm in vast numbers on the leaves of the Nwana, are of a surprising size, their usual length being from three to five inches each. Lizards, from fourteen inches to two feet in length, sported among the dry leaves with which the earth was covered to a considerable depth in the groves and forests. Butterflies as large as dinner plates (to use Dr. Livingstone's comparison,) fluttered over the flowery plains,

and seemed themselves to be animated flowers of the most resplendent colors.

Among the reeds and rushes with which the banks of the Cheekapa were densely covered, innumerable crocodiles of the largest size lay in ambuscade to seize any animal which might approach the river to drink. The size of the crocodile varies much in different localities. In the southern regions of Africa his length seldom exceeds eighteen feet. Nearer the equator he grows from twenty to thirty feet in length, while his body is almost as thick as a sugar hogshead. One of these monsters can easily master a buffalo, notwithstanding the strength of the latter is prodigious. When the buffalo comes to the water to drink, the crocodile seizes him by the muzzle and drags him into the river; he then holds the buffalo's head under the surface until the beast is drowned. It is said that however hungry a crocodile may be, he will never devour any carcass until putrefaction commences. When he has drowned an animal in the manner just spoken of, he brings it back to the shore and exposes it to the rays of the sun, until it acquires that savory taint which makes it acceptable to his palate.

As soon as the sun approaches his meridian altitude, the crocodiles dispose themselves along the banks of the river, in places where they may enjoy the day-god's caresses to the most advantage. While thus basking supinely in the solar beams, they exactly resemble so many old logs, and a stranger to their habits might unsuspectingly approach too near for his own safety.

Lehumi, the Doctor's servant, who still carried the two-barreled rifle to which reference has several times been made in this narrative, shot a very large crocodile one morning, just as the reptile popped up his ugly head above the surface of the river. The ball took effect in his brain, producing a death-struggle which was truly terrific. There is something particularly horrifying at all times in the sight of an animal of vast size in the agonies of death; but the mortal spasms of the crocodile are especially violent, because, like all reptiles, he is very tenacious of life. In this instance, the death-scene continued for more than an hour. When he first received the shot, he sunk to the bottom, but soon sprang up perpendicularly, showing more than half of his huge body above the surface of the water. Then throwing himself at full length, he lashed the stream with his tail, making the water fly to a surprising distance, and exhibiting a force which filled the two human spectators with astonishment. Once he attempted to escape from his torment by making for the land, and ran up on the shore fifty yards from the margin of the river; then whirling around in a frenzied manner, he dashed back again and plunged into the water, where he renewed his hideous struggles, until Dr. Livingstone, unable to bear the sight any longer, hastened from the spot.

CHAPTER XXXI.

THE HIPPOPOTAMUS—IDENTIFIED WITH THE BEHEMOTH OF JOB—VARIETIES OF HIPPOPOTAMI—WHERE THESE BEASTS ARE FOUND—THEIR APPEARANCE DESCRIBED—THEIR FEROCITY—THEIR HABITS AND PECULIARITIES—THEIR VORACITY—THEIR SAGACITY—THE DOCTOR IS ATTACKED BY A VENOMOUS SERPENT—AN EYE NEARLY LOST—ARRIVAL AT KATELA—TYRANNICAL GOVERNMENT—THE SLAVE TRADE.

THE river Cheekapa is thickly populated with crocodiles, otters, and hippopotami. The last named animal Dr. Livingstone supposes to be identical with Job's "behemoth." Linnæus seems to be of the same opinion, for he calls the hippopotamus, "*behemoth Jobi*." This very curious animal inhabits both fresh and salt water. It is found in many of the rivers of Africa, from the neighborhood of Cape Colony to the equator. But it is remarkable that this beast is never seen in any of those rivers which empty into the Mediterranean except the Nile, and only in one particular part of that; viz., that part which runs through Upper Egypt. It is supposed to have existed in Asia at some former period, but it is nowhere to be found on that continent at the present time. Two varieties of hippopotami are mentioned by naturalists, namely, the *hippopotamus*

amphibius, and the *hippopotamus Liberiensis*. The former variety is much the larger of the two, and is much more common; the latter variety, in fact, is very scarce.

The appearance of the hippopotamus is very singular. Some one in attempting to describe it, says: "its form is intermediate between that of an overgrown hog and a high-fed bull without horns, and with cropped ears." The head is very large in proportion to the bulk of the body. Unlike other quadrupeds, it has a movable upper jaw, the lower one being stationary. In this respect it resembles the crocodile and some other reptiles. It has two tusks in each jaw; those in the lower jaw are the largest, sometimes growing to the length of two feet. These weapons give the animal a very dangerous appearance. The inside of the mouth is said to resemble "a mass of butcher's meat." The eyes, nostrils, and ears, are all nearly on a level, so that the animal, when it rises to the surface of the water, can see, breathe, and hear, without exposing much of its head to observation. In bulk, the body of the hippopotamus is nearly equal to that of the elephant; but the legs are very short, so that the belly is almost in contact with the ground. The skin is very thick and hard, like that of the rhinoceros, being destitute of hair, except on some particular spots; for instance, about the mouth, on the edges of the ears, and at the end of the tail. The hoofs have four divisions, without any connecting membranes.

When seen on land, the color of the hippopotamus is a sort of bluish purple, but in the water it appears nearly

black. Dr. Livingstone saw some in the river Cheekapa, which he judged to be at least twelve feet in length; their bodies, which are nearly cylindrical, being from three and a half to four feet in diameter. On account of the shortness of their legs, their height, when they are in a standing position, seldom exceeds four feet and six inches. The male and female are much alike, except that the latter is somewhat smaller than her masculine companion.

In the water this animal appears to be at home; it swims and dives with great facility, and moves about in all directions rapidly and with perfect freedom. But when it is on the land, its motions are awkward and embarrassed, plainly indicating that it does not feel as if it were in its right place. The unwieldy bulk of its body, and its very short legs, give it a somewhat grotesque appearance when it is out of water; and its motions on *terra firma* are so slow, that a man may easily escape when it is disposed to be mischievous.

The hippopotamus has been described by some naturalists, as a harmless and inoffensive animal. Dr. Livingstone gives a very different account of its disposition. When enraged it is extremely ferocious, and it often takes offense on very slight occasions. The mouth, when opened, appears to be wide enough to swallow a man at one gulp; and they often open the aperture as if they had some intention of trying the experiment. But the hippopotamus is not a carnivorous animal; he "eats grass like an ox," and commits extensive depredations on plantations of rice and grain,

or vegetable-gardens, when they happen to be within his reach.

These animals are gregarious; herds of them frequently emerge from the river and ravage the neighboring country, the entire vegetation of which is sacrificed to their voracious appetites. The hippopotamus is said to be quite as sagacious as the elephant; among other cunning tricks which it practices, it will walk backward to deceive the hunters, when it is pursued. It generally remains quiet in the water during the day, and comes on shore at night for food and recreation. It appears to be little alarmed at the approach of men, unless it has been previously hunted and shot at or wounded. A misfortune of that kind always makes him timorous and unapproachable.

Cheekapa River flows into the Quanco, in latitude $10^{\circ} 15'$ south, longitude $17^{\circ} 40'$ east. The whole country in this neighborhood is covered with a network of streams of various sizes, and the soil is very moist or marshy. On this account, the whole region swarms with reptiles, some of them very venomous. Of these annoying creatures, the spitting-snake was the most troublesome. When disturbed, it darts at the person who approaches, and ejects a poisonous liquid from its mouth, evidently aiming at the eyes of the party it attacks. If one drop falls into the eye, it produces great irritation, which is very apt to end in blindness. Lehumi attempted to kill one of these reptiles, with the ramrod of his gun, when it sprang at the Doctor, and injected some of its venom into his right eye. He

hastened to a rivulet and washed his eye thoroughly, but this did not prevent him from suffering severely for several days, the eye becoming violently inflamed, and suppuration followed.

January 15th Dr. Livingstone arrived at a negro settlement called Katela, the inhabitants of which are in a very degraded condition, being little superior in morals or intellect to the Bushmen. The king or chief of this tribe, whose name is Galondaga, is accustomed to sell his subjects to the slave-traders, who still frequent the coast of Angola. The kings of all the tribes near the western coast of Africa, and north of 15° south latitude, claim a right to sell their people into slavery. The consequence is, that this section of the country is almost depopulated; for the inhabitants, whenever an opportunity offers, escape from their tyrannical governments and migrate to the eastward.

CHAPTER XXXII.

ARRIVAL AT ST. PAUL DE LOANDO—THE DOCTOR SENDS DISPATCHES TO ENGLAND—HE STARTS ON HIS HOMEWARD JOURNEY—HE MEETS WITH A FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT—ESCAPES FROM THE JAWS OF A LION—IS SERIOUSLY INJURED—IS ALMOST CAUGHT BY A CROCODILE — UNEXPECTEDLY RECEIVES A LETTER FROM HIS FATHER-IN-LAW—ANECDOTE ILLUSTRATING THE CHARACTER OF THE NATIVES.

DR. LIVINGSTONE arrived at St. Paul de Loando, on the western coast of Africa, January 20th, 1852. He took an early opportunity to prepare some dispatches for England, in which he made a statement of his discoveries, addressed to the Geographical Society of London. He also made a report of his missionary labors to the Society which sent him out. None of these papers ever reached England, as the English ship in which they were mailed was lost on her homeward passage. In the meanwhile, as nothing had been heard of the Doctor for more than two years, it was generally believed that he had perished, and his father-in-law, Mr. Moffatt, was of the same opinion. The Doctor had no opportunity since he left Kolobeng, to communicate with his friends by letter or verbal mes-

sage, and Mrs. Livingstone herself began to despair of his return.

He remained at St. Paul de Loando for several weeks, making preparations for his homeward journey. While at Loando he had an opportunity of perusing some of the latest English newspapers; and this was the first intelligence of European affairs he had obtained for nearly thirty months.

He left St. Paul de Loando on the 7th of February, and commenced his homeward journey, deviating very little from his former course. On this homeward journey he met with an adventure which he will have reason to remember to the end of his life. While traveling in the desert Lahari, accompanied by Lehumi and a party of the Bakalahari, who had overtaken him on the route, they stopped for the night on a little green spot in the midst of the waste. The Bakalahari had with them several oxen, which they intended to dispose of among some of the more northern tribes of the Bechuanas. They surrounded their camp as usual, with a hedge or fence of thorns, to protect themselves and their cattle during the night from the incursions of wild beasts. But while they slept, a lion of the largest size broke through the hedge, and fastened on one of the oxen, lacerating the side of the poor beast in the most shocking manner. The cries of distress uttered by the ox, and the roaring of the lion, soon waked the whole party, and Dr. Livingstone, grasping Lehumi's rifle, placed the muzzle in direct contact with the lion's head and fired. The wound was mortal, but

the savage brute in his dying struggles, fixed his jaws on the Doctor's arm below the shoulder, and maintained his hold until the Bakalahari hacked his head to pieces with their battle-axes. Dr. Livingstone's arm was terribly crushed, and for want of proper surgical treatment at the time, the limb was never perfectly cured. His escape with life was almost miraculous; for the wound was of a very serious nature, and was followed by inflammation, fever, and other threatening symptoms. His native companions showed him much kindness and attention during the remainder of his journey across the desert. He suffered excruciating torment at Bamooga, a Damara village on the southern extremity of the desert. Here he remained for four weeks, being carefully nursed by Lehumi, and entertained by the inhabitants of the village in the most hospitable manner.

The wound healed rapidly, but the arm never recovered its proper "set." Being extremely anxious to reach his home at Kolobeng, he resumed his journey as soon as he felt able to travel. As we have already described the country over which he was now passing, it will be unnecessary to give a detailed account of his adventures on his way back to Kolobeng. Several incidents however, in connection with his homeward tour, may deserve a place in this narrative.

Soon after he left Bamooga, he met a hunting party of Bechuanas to whom he was well known. They informed him that there was something for him on the opposite bank of the river Darga, which runs in a

MYSTERIOUS LAKE.



westerly course, in latitude $24^{\circ} 16'$, and is probably a branch of the Zouga. As he approached the Darga, at the usual fording place, he found that the stream was very much swollen, making it utterly impossible to cross without swimming. This was, on several accounts, a dangerous undertaking; the current was very rapid, and the river is much infested with crocodiles; besides, the Doctor's disabled arm unfitted him for such active exercise. Nevertheless, as there was no alternative except to remain on the northern side of the river, Dr. Livingstone resolved to cross at all hazards. The river at this place was about fifty yards in breadth. Lehumi insisted on crossing first and carrying the rifle, which was strapped to his shoulders. The Doctor kept possession of the powder which was closely corked up in an ox-horn, to preserve it from the damp. Lehumi accomplished his voyage with very little difficulty, Dr. Livingstone keeping watch on the bank with the intention of shouting to drive away the crocodiles, if any should approach the swimmer. As soon as Lehumi was safely landed, Dr. Livingstone recommending himself to the care of Divine Providence, betook himself to the water. Being an excellent swimmer, he did not experience much difficulty in keeping himself afloat, notwithstanding he had the use of but one arm. When Livingstone had reached a point a little beyond the middle of the river, Lehumi beheld a large crocodile rapidly approaching the Doctor. The affrighted blackamoor shouted with all his strength, but the reptile kept on his course, with his glistening eye fixed on the mis-

sionary, whom Lehumi's shout had now made aware of his peril. Dr. Livingstone perceived that he was utterly defenseless, and at the mercy of this voracious beast, unless Divine mercy should interpose for his deliverance. He therefore kept on his course without pausing to make any useless demonstration of battle.

In the meanwhile, Lehumi grasped a stone and threw it with such fortunate precision that it struck the crocodile near the eye, and caused him to disappear beneath the surface of the river. In a few minutes Dr. Livingstone came to land, and threw himself on his knees to return thanks for his preservation. Having performed this duty, he remembered what the Bechuanas had told him about something which had been left for him on this bank of the river. His eyes rested on a small pile of stones in the shape of a hut, thatched with grass; and on removing some of the covering, he found a package directed to himself, with a letter from his father-in-law, Mr. Moffatt. From the date of the letter, it appeared that it had been written more than fourteen months prior to the time at which Dr. Livingstone found it. The package contained some books and newspapers.

The history of this deposit came to Dr. Livingstone's knowledge afterward. Mr. Moffatt, who was totally ignorant of Livingstone's whereabouts, except that he knew that the Doctor was traveling somewhere in the interior, dispatched the package and letter by some Bechuana hunters, hoping that they might meet with the Doctor or gain some intelligence concerning his

present location. The Bechuanas who were charged with this commission, arrived at the southern bank of the river Darga, which was fordable at that time. On the opposite shore they discovered some Bamangwatoes who were then at war with the tribe to which the messenger belonged. The Bechuanas shouted to the Bamangwatoes, informing them that they had something for Dr. Livingstone, and desired them to come over and receive it. The Bawangwatoes answered that the bundle contained witchcraft medicine, and that they would not touch it. "Well," replied the Bechuanas, "we leave the parcel in your charge, and if you do not take care of it, the consequences will fall on your own heads." They then departed, leaving the package on the margin of the river. The Bamangwatoes were alarmed at the responsibility which rested on them; they held a consultation, and came to the conclusion that they must do something. Accordingly, they crossed over the river and built a little hut over the white man's property, and thus it was preserved in a good condition until the Doctor took possession. It was safe enough from the depredations of the natives, notwithstanding their thieving propensities, for they are very careful not to touch any article which they suppose to be bewitched; and all books and writings are imagined by them to be in that predicament.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

THE DOCTOR'S RETURN TO KOLOBENG—HE HEARS HIS OWN FUNERAL SERMON—FINDS HIS WIFE IN THE MOURNING WEEDS OF WIDOWHOOD—HE IS SUPPOSED TO BE IN A DYING CONDITION—HE RECOVERS HIS HEALTH AND PROJECTS ANOTHER JOURNEY—HE COMMENCES HIS FOURTH TOUR—RESOLVES TO FOLLOW THE COURSE OF ZAMBEZI RIVER—ARRIVES AT BAROTZE—MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE—WOMAN'S RIGHTS ACKNOWLEDGED.

OUR missionary traveler arrived at Kolobeng (the place where he had fixed his permanent home and where his wife still resided,) on Sunday morning. It was now almost two years and a half since his friends at this place had heard from him, and the common belief among them was that he was dead. During his absence, Mr. Moffatt passed a considerable part of his time at Kolobeng, the inhabitants of which seemed to be prepared, more than many of their countrymen, for the reception of Gospel truth. It happened by a singular coincidence that Mr. Moffatt was preaching in a mimosa grove near the village, at the very moment of Livingstone's arrival. Our traveler, hearing the sound of that well-known voice, drew near and became one of

the auditors, unperceived by the preacher, whose eyesight was very defective. At that juncture, Mr. Moffatt was speaking of Dr. Livingstone himself, whom he mentioned as a Christian martyr, offering himself as a willing sacrifice to extend the means of salvation among the benighted people of Africa. The native audience appeared to be deeply affected at this discourse, for every one of them remembered some instance of the Doctor's paternal kindness. But Dr. Livingstone's attention was now engrossed by one object; near the speaker's stand sat a female form in deep mourning, her face concealed by the handkerchief which received her flowing tears. It was his wife, or, as she considered herself, his *widow*. The Doctor perceived that it would be imprudent to discover himself suddenly to his friends. He had stood behind the audience, being partly concealed by the trunk of a tree, and thus he escaped observation. He now seated himself behind a thorn-bush, and listened to the remainder of the sermon, which might be considered as his own funeral discourse, as Mr. Moffatt constantly spoke of him as one who had fought the good fight, and finished his course on earth.

When the services were finished with the customary hymn and prayer, Dr. Livingstone withdrew with Lehumi to the dense shades of the grove, whence he soon after sent Lehumi with instructions how to break the intelligence of his arrival to Mr. Moffatt. The joyful surprise of the good old gentleman on the reception of this intelligence may be imagined. In the most cautious manner, he communicated the grateful intelligence to Mrs. Livingstone; and after this preparation, the

Doctor once more entered his dwelling from which he had been so long exiled.

The distance from Kolobeng to St. Paul de Loando, on the route traveled by Dr. Livingstone, is eighteen hundred miles; all of which he accomplished on foot, under almost every disadvantage to which a traveler could be liable.

His health was so much impaired by hardship and exposure to the most insalubrious climate in the world, that for many months his friends had little hope of his recovery. He remained at Kolobeng for two years, entirely devoted to his missionary duties. At the end of this time, finding his health re-established, and being stimulated by an earnest desire to impart the truths of the Gospel to nations hitherto unvisited by the ministers of our faith, he resolved on still another journey, and one more extensive and perilous than any he had yet undertaken.

His design now was to pursue the course of the Leambebe River from its junction with the Kafue to its eastern termination. This projected route would lead him in a direction precisely opposite to that which he took in his preceding tour; and if he should succeed, as he expected, in tracing the course of the Leambebe to the sea, he would have traversed the whole continent from west to east; that is to say, from St. Paul de Loando, near the western coast, to the mouth of the Leambebe, which he judged to be on that part of the eastern coast which is occupied by the Portuguese settlements. In other words, he expected to identify the Leambebe with the river Quilimane or Zambezi.

In spite of all the dissuasions of his friends, he started on this expedition, September 7, 1854, being still accompanied by his old and well-tried servant Lehumi, who had become passionately fond of adventure, and, in his way, was almost as great an enthusiast as his master.

This noble-minded fellow took great delight in narrating the incidents of his western tour to his countrymen at Mobitza. "Our people," said he, "have always reported that the world has no end, but I myself have been to the end of it. I went marching on with my father (Dr. Livingstone), believing what our people had said. All at once, the world said to us, 'I am finished; there is no more of me!' There was nothing but water in front." In this way he described the impression made on him by the sight of the open sea at Loando.

For five hundred miles, Dr. Livingstone took the same course, due northward, which he had traveled twice before. He reached the Leambeebe river where it unites with the Kafue in latitude $16^{\circ} 20'$ south, longitude $24^{\circ} 6'$ east. About fifteen miles south of the junction of these two rivers, Zambezi River unites with the Leambeebe, and pursues a semicircular course, first to the east and then to the northeast, until it unites with the Kafue about three hundred miles from the confluence of the latter with the Leambeebe. Thus the Leambeebe, the Kafue, and the Zambezi rivers form one continuous stream, with many meanderings and ramifications. On his preceding tour to the eastern coast, Dr. Livingstone had traced the Leambeebe to

its principal source, viz., to Lake Dilolo. Considering the Zambezi as a continuation of the Leambebe, and, in fact, the same stream, Livingstone now determined to complete the exploration of this great river by following up its course to the sea, as he doubted not that it disembogued somewhere into the Indian Ocean on the eastern coast of Africa. On arriving at the point where Zambezi River connects with the Leambebe, he followed the course of the former, and thus changed his northward route for one to the east.

When he had proceeded two days' journey in this direction, he came to the Valley of the Barotze, situated between latitude 16° and $14^{\circ} 30'$ south, and $26^{\circ} 10'$ east longitude. This valley is annually flooded by the Zambezi, just as the country between Cairo and Alexandria, in Egypt, is overflowed by the Nile. The parts thus inundated are very fertile, and produce wheat and other grain in great abundance.

The Barotze nation may be regarded as a "cross" between the Moors and the negroes. They have a trade with the Portuguese settlements, managed partly by means of canoe navigation on the Zambezi; and they procure various European commodities from the Portuguese commercial depot at Zete three hundred miles from the eastern coast. They use tea, coffee, sugar, printed calicoes, and other European luxuries. Hence their appearance is very different from the skin-clad negroes of the southern districts. The men dress in loose trousers, cut somewhat in the Turkish fashion, and roundabout jackets; both garments being composed of



GEMSBOK OR ANTELOPE.

that kind of calico which was formerly used in England for curtains, ornamented with large figures of flowers, birds, &c., represented in the most brilliant colors. The women wear petticoats made of the same material, and both sexes burden themselves with a profusion of fantastic ornaments, beads, copper trinkets, &c., arranged on their necks, arms, and ankles. They have a great taste for splendor, as they understand it; and it must be confessed that their appearance is rather dazzling, though an European might smile at its tawdry character.

Among these people, the equality of the sexes is fully acknowledged; or rather the women may be said to have the ascendancy. A majority of the chiefs are of the female sex, and every woman is supreme in her own household. It might be supposed that the government of the female chieftains is mild and gentle; but the very reverse is generally the case. The lady sovereigns are commonly capricious and tyrannical, and are very much disposed to quarrel with each other, so that wars between the tribes are of frequent occurrence. As both sexes are reared in the same manner, and are engaged in the same employments, and exposed to the same hardships from infancy, they are so much alike in appearance that they are distinguishable only by their dress. The women have a confident and assuming air, which is very offensive to a stranger; and there is no appearance of that retiring modesty which is the most amiable and fascinating trait of the female character.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

ARRIVAL AT MOLEMA—THE DOCTOR REPORTS HIMSELF TO QUEEN BAJEDA—SHE OBJECTS TO THE DOCTRINE OF ORIGINAL SIN—SHE MAKES A PROPOSAL TO DR. LIVINGSTONE—CONSEQUENCES OF HIS REFUSAL—THE DOCTOR ESCAPES DRUGGING—RESUMES HIS JOURNEY—MORE HARD TRAVELING—INTOLERABLE HEAT—LIVINGSTONE'S WONDERFUL POWERS OF ENDURANCE—SCORPIONS IN ABUNDANCE—THEIR APPEARANCE, HABITS, &C.—THE KAMEEL-DOORN.

A DIALECT of the Bechuana language is spoken in Barotze valley; the Doctor therefore found no difficulty in communicating with the inhabitants. On his arrival at Molema, a Barotze village, he deemed it prudent to conform with a rule of African etiquette by presenting himself to the chief of the tribe before he held any conferences with the people. Without delay, therefore, he inquired for the residence of the chief, and was informed that the tribe was governed by a woman named Bajeda, to whose hut or palace (if you please to call it so), he was directed by one of the villagers.

Queen Bajeda, an elderly fat woman, with a mahogany-colored complexion, received the Doctor with some

civility and ordered coffee for his refreshment. Having partaken of this beverage, Dr. Livingstone stated the object of his visit, and asked permission to explain the principles of his religion to the people of Molema. The queen informed the Doctor that she had heard some items of the white man's creed from a Portuguese kalleh (priest), whom she had met at Zete, when she visited that place several years ago. She added that the priest told her some things which she could not believe. The Doctor perceived that this priest had been endeavoring to instil some of his Catholic doctrines into the mind of the African princess. However, he deemed it inexpedient at that time to allude to any of the errors of the Romish church. Nevertheless, he made a plain statement of the cardinal doctrines of his own church, dwelling particularly on the fallen condition of man, his natural depravity and the necessity of regeneration. The queen asked, with some asperity, if he meant to intimate that *she* was a sinner. The Doctor frankly replied that all mankind are in the bonds of iniquity, and subject to condemnation, unless they avail themselves of the means of salvation. Queen Bajeda then appeared to be greatly offended, but turned the conversation to temporal subjects, making many curious inquiries concerning the condition and habits of the white men, whether they were cannibals, whether some of them did not grow as tall as the trees, &c. Dr. Livingstone endeavored to correct her misapprehensions on these subjects, and then arose to take leave, but first repeated his request that he might be

permitted to communicate with the people of the tribe. To this the queen rather peevishly gave her consent. Her majesty then directed one of her attendants to conduct the Doctor and his servant to a vacant hut appropriated to the accommodation of strangers visiting the tribe.

On the next morning, Dr. Livingstone received a message from the queen commanding his attendance. When he came to her presence, the royal Bajeda, without any affectation of bashfulness, proposed herself as a matrimonial partner to the reverend gentleman, on condition that he would take up his permanent abode in her kingdom. The Doctor informed her that he was already married; but she considered this as a very slight obstacle, and advised him to forget his former alliance. To this proposition he answered decisively in the negative; and Bajeda, without exhibiting much displeasure at his refusal, dismissed him.

Soon after the Doctor had returned to his lodgings, several of the queen's attendants entered, bearing a porringer of broth and some other eatables for the Doctor's use. He was about to make a hearty meal, when Lehumi entered hastily and in great excitement, and implored Doctor Livingstone not to touch the food which had been sent to him from Queen Bajeda. Lehumi then proceeded to state that he had learned from a Bechuana woman who waited on her majesty, that the viands were poisoned, and that Bajeda had expressed her determination to have the Doctor's life. Dr. Livingstone remembered the lines,

"Earth has no fiend like love to hatred turned,
Nor hell a fury like a woman scorned."

And he supposed there might be some truth in Lehumí's information; so leaving his savory dinner untouched, he proceeded forthwith on his journey.

As the annual flood of the Zambezi had but recently subsided, the earth was covered with a thick slime which made the traveling unpleasant and laborious. The heat at this time was more oppressive than it ever had been before within the Doctor's experience, although he had been considerably nearer to the equator. His pocket thermometer seldom indicated less than 110° Fahrenheit in the shade; and once when placed in the fork of a tree, several feet from the ground, the mercury rose to 140°! Dr. Livingstone's powers of endurance are most extraordinary, or he could not have traveled for whole days, and for many days exposed to the scorching suns of such a climate, and to the pestiferous exhalations of the marshy earth. To make matters still worse, the temperature at nightfall often underwent a sudden and remarkable change. Sometimes the surface of the damp ground was slightly frosted in the morning. The travelers were obliged to sleep on the cold and moist earth after being nearly roasted by the solar beams throughout the day.

But the greatest annoyance to Dr. Livingstone was the multitude of scorpions which always appear in vast numbers after the inundation has ceased. These reptiles are less dangerous, perhaps, than many others which abound in the marshy districts of Africa, as

their sting, though painful, is seldom fatal; but the Doctor had a natural antipathy for the hideous vermin, which made them more horrifying to him than many creatures which are truly more formidable. Often when the travelers were about to lie down for the night, a swarm of scorpions would emerge from a hole in the ground close to the spot which had been selected for a resting place. As these creatures are very fond of warmth, they were much inclined to approach the sleeping travelers, in order to obtain a share of their vital heat. It was no uncommon thing, therefore, when the Doctor and Lehumi awoke in the morning, to find half-a-dozen or more scorpions snugly esconced under their sheep-skin counterpanes. These were unpleasant neighbors, for if any movement of the unconscious sleeper should disturb or alarm the intruders, they might be provoked to inflict envenomed wounds with the horny sting affixed to the end of their tails. The sting of the scorpion is invariably followed by painful swelling, inflammation, and feverish symptoms more or less violent, according to the peculiarities of the sufferer's constitution. When death is likely to ensue, the symptoms resemble those of tetanus or hydrophobia. The shape of the scorpion is almost exactly like that of the lobster. In Africa scorpions often grow to the length of seven or eight inches, and the larger they are the more danger is to be apprehended from their stings. They lie torpid in dry weather, but turn out in large numbers immediately after a rain or an inundation. They often lie concealed under stones, decayed pieces

wood, &c., and much caution is required when such things are to be removed.

On the 7th of October, the travelers came to more elevated ground, which had partly escaped the overflow. Here the earth was not covered with thick black mud as in the lower parts of the valley, but presented a grassy surface, very rich and beautiful. Here, likewise, they found many magnificent groves of that variety of the acacia-tree called kameel-doorn, giraffe-thorn, or *acacia giraffæ*. This tree is equally remarkable for its great size, beauty or utility. It derives its name from the fact that it constitutes the favorite and principal food of the giraffe or camelopard. The appearance of the tree is both imposing and singular. It often grows to the height of from eighty to one hundred feet. The branches and foliage turn downward, so as to give the tree an appearance like that of a huge canopy or umbrella. It is a strange circumstance that this tree never grows on any ground which is flooded by the river, or in any district which is visited by copious rains. The kameel-doorn is evidently of slow growth, and is supposed to require hundreds of years to arrive at maturity. The wood is so very compact, that after being dried or "seasoned" for years, it will sink when thrown into water. The grain is short, however, and on this account the wood is somewhat brittle; but notwithstanding this defect, its stone-like firmness makes it suitable for many uses. It constitutes a hard and durable building material, and is often used by the Africans as a substitute for iron in the

construction of agricultural implements. The natives, however, do not possess the proper tools for operating on this wood with facility; and indeed many a well-tempered axe and adze has been blunted and spoiled, by being applied to this use. Externally, the tree appears of a whitish color, but within, the wood has a reddish brown color, similar to that of mahogany, and it is capable of a very fine polish.

CHAPTER XXXV.

THE BASHUKULOMPOS—THEIR MANNERS, COSTUME, AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE—THEIR STRANGE SUPERSTITIONS—THE DOCTOR KILLS A LION, AND SAVES THE LIFE OF A NATIVE—HIS RECOMPENSE—HE IS MOBBED—APPEALS TO THE CHIEF—HE IS SEVERELY REBUKED, AND IS DRIVEN FROM THE BASHUKULOMPOS VILLAGE IN DISGRACE.

ON the 20th of October, Dr. Livingstone reached a very fine country inhabited by a nation called the Bashukulompos. This region is situated on the northern side of the Zambezi; the land is very fertile, and teems with a vast variety of animal and vegetable productions. These people carry on a trade, by means of canoes, with the Portuguese settlement at Zete, and thus supply themselves with a variety of European fabrics, such as printed calicoes, gaudy-colored bombazines, alpacas, &c. Their costume is very similar to that of the Molemas, described in a former chapter. They resemble the Molemas in personal appearance also, but seem to be inferior to them in intelligence. The Bashukulompas have some horrible superstitions; the principal objects of their worship are lions, elephants, and several kinds of venomous serpents. All

of these deified brutes and reptiles are permitted to take the largest liberties with their persons and possessions, for it is considered impious to resist them. Lions enter the villages, and carry off the domestic animals, and the inhabitants themselves, with impunity; and it is considered a special favor when one of these savage beasts selects a human victim. When a lion or elephant appears, the people come out of their houses and greet him with acclamations and clapping of hands. Fortunately for them, the brute commonly misapprehends their intentions, and is generally more alarmed than gratified by their noisy demonstrations of respect. Hence he frequently withdraws without doing any mischief to his worshipers, who appear to deserve some chastisement for their absurd superstition.

Dr. Livingstone was so much shocked and grieved by the infatuation of these miserable idolaters, that he resolved to remain with them some time, with the hope that he might be instrumental in making them see the error of their ways. Finding that the Bechuana language was sufficiently like their own to be understood by them, he spoke to the natives in the most earnest manner, exhorting them to abandon the worship of beasts, and embrace a more rational faith. They listened very coldly to these admonitions, and were evidently disposed to regard the Doctor as a fanatical enthusiast. They treated him, however, in the most hospitable manner, assigning him a hut for a lodging-place, and furnishing him and Lehumi with an ample supply of provisions.

One night, when the Bashukulompos were performing their national dances, according to their custom, by the light of the full moon, Dr. Livingstone, who stood looking on with melancholy interest, heard the angry growl of a lion, which was immediately followed by a piercing shriek, like that of a human being in great agony. On turning his head, he saw the lion holding one of the natives in its jaws. The beast had seized the man by the shoulder, and was bearing him off; the poor wretch held out his arms toward his companions as if imploring for assistance. As Dr. Livingstone was near the door of his hut, he hastily entered and snatched up his rifle, which was always kept loaded and ready for service. When he came out, the lion was still seen dragging the man toward a thicket, and the wretched victim was still uttering feeble cries for help. The Doctor leveled his gun and fired at the lion's flank. The bullet perforated the side of the brute, and caused him to drop his prey. The Doctor immediately fired his second barrel, the contents of which wounded the lion mortally, and made him fall to the ground. Then Dr. Livingstone and Lehumi hastened to the relief of the wounded man; his shoulder was much lacerated by the lion's teeth, but in other respects he had sustained but little injury. With Lehumi's assistance, the Doctor conveyed the unfortunate man to his hut and dressed his wounds, which were found to be not of a very serious nature. In the meanwhile, the hut was beset by a clamorous multitude of the natives, who threatened vengeance against Dr. Livingstone for insulting the

object of their adoration. The Doctor paid but little attention to their angry vociferations, until he had properly attended to his patient, and done all in his power to make him comfortable. He then went to the door of the hut, and commanded the natives, in an authoritative tone, to be quiet. Order being restored in some measure, he asked them what he had done to deserve their resentment. Some of them replied that he had offended and hurt their "gnoona" (deity), and robbed him of his prey. The Doctor calmly replied, "I believe I have *killed* your quadruped divinity; and I hope, when you find him dead, you will be convinced that he was not a proper object of worship." He then commanded them to go home, adding, "If I have done wrong, I will be answerable to your chief to-morrow."

The natives were overawed by his firm and resolute behavior; and, after conversing together for some time, they quietly retired. Dr. Livingstone and Lehumi then betook themselves to repose. On the following morning, the Doctor, according to his promise, went to the hut of the chief, Merkomo, to answer for the misdemeanor of killing one of the gods of the Bashukulompos. He hoped that this chief would have sense and rationality enough to acknowledge the good service he had performed by saving the life of one of the tribe. But he was mistaken. Merkomo was very much incensed, and bitterly reproached the Doctor for his ungrateful conduct. "We received you kindly," said he, "and provided for all your wants, and you have repaid us by bringing down a curse upon our tribe. What signi-



BECHUANAS TRIBE.

fies the life of one man? Who would not willingly die for the benefit and preservation of his people? You have provoked the anger of the mighty spirit which dwelt in the body of that lion, and he will take vengeance on our nation for the offense which you have committed. My people thirst for your blood; go away quickly, for our hearts are bitter, and our hands can hardly be still."

All the Doctor's attempts to explain and to reason with the old chief were ineffectual; he therefore went back to his patient, and examined his wound, which he found to be in an improving condition. The man, however, was in great distress of mind, and, in answer to the Doctor's kind inquiries, he said: "My life is all dark; better had it been for me to be devoured by the lion, than to live in shame and to be hated by my tribe, who will look on me as the cause of their misfortunes."

Dr. Livingstone gave the poor fellow directions for the management of his wound, and soon after departed from the village of the Bashukulompos, not a little discouraged by the ill success of his benevolent endeavors to enlighten this people.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

INCREASED MAGNITUDE OF ZAMBEZI RIVER — WATER FOWL—SPOILED FISH—THE DARMAS—THEIR DRESS —SUPERSTITIONS—QUADRUPEL GHOSTS—MAN A VEGETABLE PRODUCTION—THEY BURY CHILDREN ALIVE —DR. LIVINGSTONE SAVES THE LIVES OF SEVERAL INFANTS—SHORT-LIVED PEOPLE—TERRIBLE EPIDEMIC —MANY DISEASES UNKNOWN AMONG THE DARMAS—NO CONSUMPTION, HYDROPHOBIA, OR INSANITY—IMPUDENT BIRDS—TIGERS—GIGANTIC HOGS.

OUR travelers left Barhukulompos on the 5th of November, still following the course of the Zambezi River, which had now become a stream of great magnitude, being more than a mile in breadth. The natives were often seen paddling up and down this river in canoes, but having a superstitious dread of white men, they would never permit the Doctor to enter one of their tiny vessels, otherwise he might have avoided much toilsome traveling on foot. Zambezi River is much resorted to by water-fowl, such as geese, ducks, cormorants, pelicans, flamingoes, and sand-pipers. None of these birds breed here, but come for the purpose of obtaining their food. The pelicans and cormorants find an excellent supply of fish in this river. As the

river falls after an inundation, countless numbers of fish are left stranded in the mud, and these serve to feed vast flocks of those birds which relish that sort of provision. Most of the fish thus left "high and dry," were in a putrefied condition, but the travelers occasionally found a few which were eatable. Of the fish which inhabit this river there are many varieties, some of which are of a large size and well-flavored. The only ones which bore any resemblance to European fish, were a sort of perch and several of the barbel kind.

In latitude $25^{\circ} 8'$ south, longitude $28^{\circ} 10'$ east, Dr. Livingstone found a tribe or nation of people calling themselves Darmas, which he supposes to be the parent stock of the Damaras, who now inhabit a district southwest of Lake Ngami. The Darmas have several villages situated to the north of Zambezi River. They do not navigate the river, and use no canoes; therefore they have no dealings with the Portuguese settlements, and make little use of European commodities. They dress in skins, like the negro tribes generally; and are of an unsocial and somewhat ferocious disposition.

These people do not profess to believe in a future state; but several of their superstitious observances may seem to imply that they have some notions of a life after death. They place provisions near the graves of their deceased relatives, and invite the dead to rise up and eat. They also offer up prayers to their deceased parents and invoke their blessings. The Darmas believe also in apparitions; but strange to say,

their ghosts never appear in a human form, but always wear the likeness of some quadruped, such as a dog, a jackall, or a hyena. This circumstance has led to the suspicion that a belief in the metempsychosis, or transmigration of souls, prevails among these people ; but when questioned respecting their notions concerning a future life, they generally deny that such a thing is possible.

Nevertheless, they are firm believers in witchcraft, and all their medical science consists of certain magic ceremonies. Their magicians or physicians are called Omoondo ; their whole curative art consists in reciting certain charms and smearing the mouth of the sick person with the ordure of the hyena. This unpleasant physic is their grand catholicon, being applicable to all diseases, and is duly certified to be infallible in all cases.

The Darmas are not beast-worshipers, like those tribes which have lately come under our notice. They have a supreme deity called Umerura ; and, besides, each tribe and family has its tutelary divinity or guardian angel, which is the principal object of worship. They believe that man is of a vegetable origin, and that the different races of men spring from various kinds of trees. They sacrifice beasts to their guardian deities, and have several religious rites which strongly resemble those of the ancient Egyptians. Circumcision is also practiced among them, but this operation is not performed at any particular age. When a woman dies and leaves a sucking infant, the babe is always buried

alive in the same grave with the mother. At Dr. Livingstone's solicitation, several children were saved from this horrible fate.

The Darmas are remarkably short-lived. No old people were seen among them. The climate of the district in which they live is particularly unhealthy, on account of the miasmata arising from those extensive lagoons which abound in the neighborhood of Zambezi River. The prevailing disease is a violent epidemic fever of a bilious, malignant nature, which is probably identical with the yellow fever, or *typhus icterodes*, of South America and the West Indies. Hundreds of the natives are swept off annually by this terrific malady, the attack of which is almost invariably fatal. In other respects the Darmas are singularly healthy. Consumption is unknown among them, and they are never troubled with any disorder of the respiratory organs. They have no small-pox, measles, or any other eruptive; no hydrophobia, rheumatism, gout, or dysentery; and they have no cases of mania or lunacy. It is probable that their freedom from many diseases arises from the nature of their diet. Milk and vegetables are their principal articles of food, and they appear to be restrained by some superstitious feeling from eating the flesh of animals. This fact seems to favor the supposition that they believe in the Pythagorean doctrine of transmigration.

All the animal productions of Africa abound in this district, but elephants are especially numerous; in fact, this locality seems to be the grand rendezvous of these

huge creatures. They are never disturbed by the natives, although they occasionally commit great trespass on the fields and plantations, and do considerable damage to the crops. The shores of the Zambezi are frequented by birds of the hawk kind, which prey on the decayed fish with which the banks are covered. The familiar boldness of these fowls was remarkable; they did not appear to be alarmed at the sight of human beings, but would alight at the very feet of the travelers and look up into their faces with provoking effrontery. When the Doctor and Lehumi sat down to eat their meals, these insolent hawks would often make a swoop and attempt to snatch the food from their hands. The Doctor was amused at their audacity, and would not permit Lehumi to fire at them, which he was provoked to do by their bold attempts at robbery.

Leopards are numerous in all parts of Africa, and they are called tigers by the Dutch settlers near the Cape; but it is generally believed that the real tiger is not to be found on this continent. This is a mistake, however, as tigers of a very large size exist to the north of 16° south latitude. They are certainly the most dangerous animals in this region; as on account of their lurking and insidious habits, their victims are always taken by surprise, and the traveler is often unable to avoid their attacks. Their usual places of concealment are in thickets or cane-brakes, from whence they spring on their prey when least expected. In size and strength they are little inferior to the lion, and are much more ferocious and destructive than the latter, as they often

commit slaughter, as it might seem, merely to gratify their blood-thirsty propensities, rather than to appease their appetites.

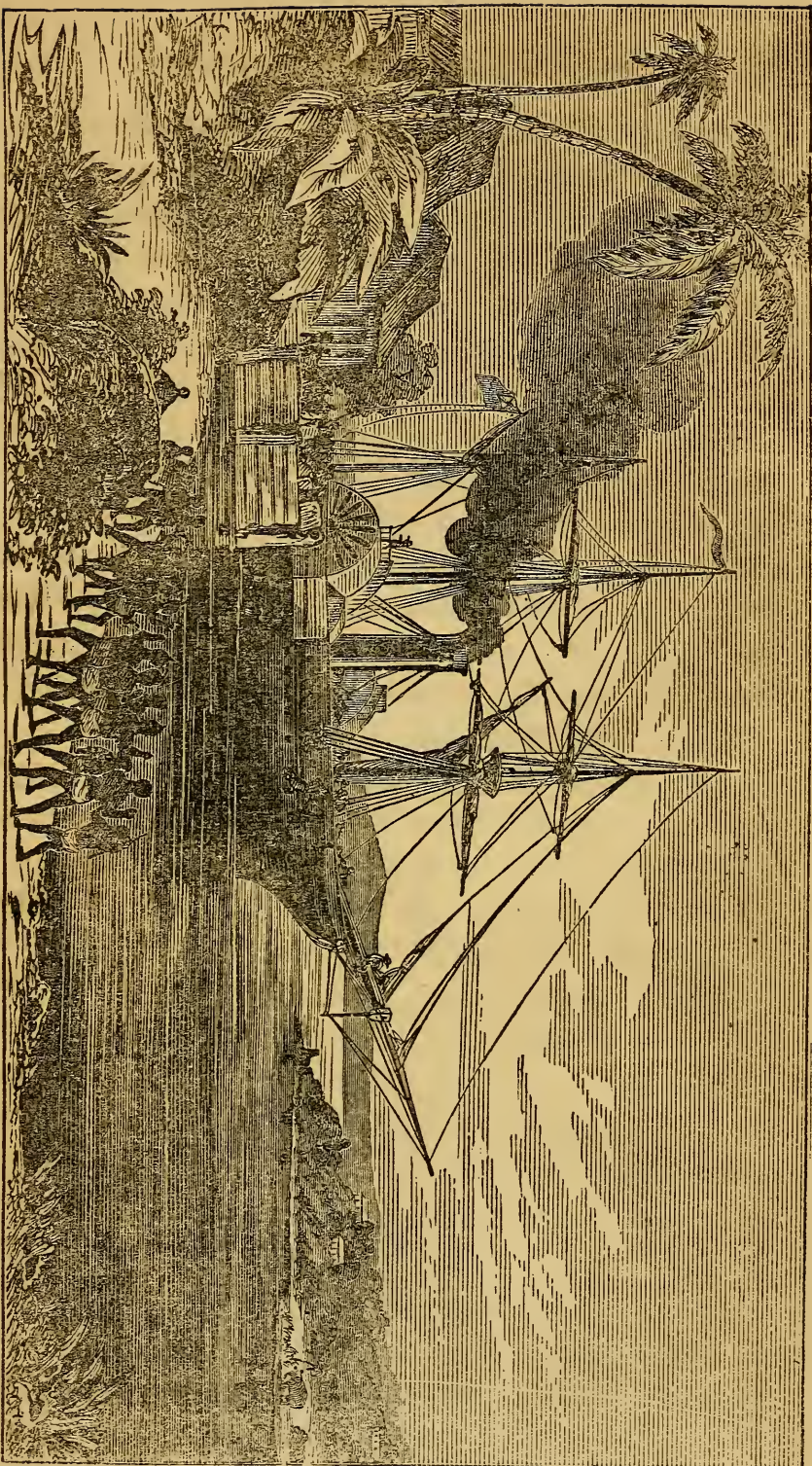
The country of the Darmas produces an enormous breed of swine, unequalled in any other part of the known world. Dr. Livingstone saw a boar of this breed which he and Lehumi both mistook, at the first view, for a black rhinoceros. Many others of these gigantic hogs were met with daily. A majority of them seemed to be too fat and lazy to bestir themselves. They wallowed in the thick ooze deposited by the river, or lay upon their bellies to devour the putrid fish with which the banks were covered. The Doctor remarks, "what an acquisition this breed of hogs would be to the English farmers."

CHAPTER XXXVII.

LEHUMI IS BEWITCHED—DR. LIVINGSTONE IN GREAT TROUBLE—HE APPLIES TO A WIZARD DOCTOR—FRIGHTFUL DISEASE—THE GUINEA-WORM—SCIENTIFIC MODE OF TREATING IT—THE DOCTOR IS COMPELLED TO REMAIN AMONG THE NATIVES OF DARMA—HE VISITS THE LAND OF PESTILENCE—REPTILES AND INSECTS—POISONOUS PLANTS—THE STINK-WOOD TREE—ITS VALUABLE PROPERTIES.

ON the morning of November 2nd, when the Doctor awoke, he saw his man Lehumi sitting on the ground, with his head on his knees, a convulsive shudder agitating his frame every two or three minutes. The Doctor inquired what disturbed him; Lehumi raised his head, and answered, "Master, nie bewitched." On further inquiry, the Doctor found that his right leg, below the knee, was very much inflamed, and appeared to be extremely painful. The sufferer said, "The Darma witch mad with Lehumi, and put snake in his leg." At this, Dr. Livingstone made an impatient exclamation, and admonished Lehumi not to believe in such nonsense. The serving-man replied, "Master, what me see me believe. Suppose Master look, he see snake's head stick out of Lehumi's leg."

DR. LIVINGSTONE'S EMBARKATION FOR ENGLAND AT QUILIMANE, AND SUICIDE OF HIS FAITHFUL NATIVE GUIDE, LEHUMI, FROM EXCITEMENT AND TERROR AT THE SIGHT OF THE STEAMSHIP, ETC.



The Doctor inspected the limb, and, to his great astonishment, he saw what really appeared to be the head of a small serpent, projecting from a tumefied spot near the knee. From the point where this head appeared, a small ridge, or elevated line in the skin, extended downward to the length of about eighteen inches. This ridge, as Lehumi said, contained the body of the snake. Though the Doctor had studied physic, he had never seen, heard, or read of any similar case, and he asked Lehumi if he had ever known any person to be "bewitched" in the same manner. The poor fellow answered that nothing was more common in his country; but he added that the medicine men of his tribe knew how to make the snake come out. Though the Doctor was unacquainted with that singular disease of Africa called the "Guinea-worm," he formed a pretty correct notion of Lehumi's ailment; yet, as he had no experience in such cases, he resolved to have a consultation on the subject with one of the native physicians. In the meanwhile, Lehumi suffered the most excruciating pains, and walked with such difficulty, that the whole day was consumed in proceeding four or five miles. Late in the afternoon, they fortunately arrived at a Darma village called Nagrikee; and the Doctor's first business then was to inquire for the hut of a "medicine man," though he felt some compunctious reluctance to deal with an individual who made pretensions to an acquaintance with the magical arts. When the wizard-doctor was found, Livingstone plainly told him that he was not to be deceived by any necromantic

fooleries, and that he came to him merely to have the benefit of his medical skill. He then requested the native M. D. to examine Lehumí's leg, which was done without any of the usual absurd ceremonies. The Darma doctor declared that he understood the case very well, but that the worm could not be extracted and the leg cured within less than three months.

Dr. Livingstone was obliged to submit to circumstances ; he therefore made arrangements to remain in the village for the time specified. The native doctor commenced operations by tying a small thong of leather around the neck of the worm ; and having pulled it gently, so as to disengage a small portion of the worm's body, he wound it around a stick, and signified that nothing more could be done until the next day. He told Dr. Livingstone that the greatest care was required to avoid breaking the worm's body ; as such an accident would make the extraction very difficult, and probably might occasion the loss of the patient's leg, or of his life. Every day the Darma leech extracted about half an inch of the worm in the manner just described ; and Livingstone calculated that the whole would be extracted in about half the time which the Darma thought would be necessary for the purpose. But the physician informed him that the worm would continue to grow in the mean time, and that it is no uncommon thing for one to attain the length of two yards.

We have been particular in describing this case and the curative process, because the disease called "Guinea-worm" constitutes one of the great afflictions and dangers

to which African travelers are exposed. White men are just as liable to this disease as the natives themselves; and many sailors and others have fallen victims to it for want of proper treatment, as few European surgeons or physicians have any knowledge of the mode of cure. It is conjectured that the worm, while it is yet too small to be discerned by the naked eye, perforates the skin and burrows underneath. It then continues to grow, perhaps for months or years, without causing enough pain or uneasiness to attract the attention of the party affected, until it arrives at a certain size, when a tumor, exactly like a boil, appears on the spot where the head of the worm is situated. This tumor increases in size, and becomes livid in appearance and very painful. In the course of a few days, it opens at the top, and the head of the worm protrudes. At this critical juncture the most skillful treatment is required; for if the worm should not be extracted entire, the symptoms will become very threatening, and the whole limb may become a mass of corruption, ending in mortification and death.

While Dr. Livingstone was detained at Nagrikee by Lehumi's illness, he made an excursion northward, tracing the course of one of the Zambezi's tributaries, which he called the river Loangua. This tributary stream runs due north and south for more than one hundred miles before it unites with the Zambezi; it then, as the Doctor was informed by some of the natives, flows in an easterly direction, and connects with the Zambezi

again, at the distance of three days' journey (say one hundred miles,) from Shinte.

After emerging from the valley of the Zambezi, he found himself in a country the beauty and fertility of which filled him with admiration; but then followed the melancholy reflection that a country like this, abounding with all the means and appliances of human happiness, should still be almost uninhabited. In the course of a hundred miles northward from the great river, he saw but two or three huts, occupied by wretched specimens of humanity, half clothed, and apparently half starved. Yet man could live here in comfort, aye, in luxury, with very little exertion, were it not for one fatal obstacle. The atmosphere of this region is of the most pestilential character. The miasmatic exhalations from the valley of the river are wafted hither by the breezes which blow, almost without intermission, toward the equator. Thus the local atmosphere is tainted to a degree which makes it scarcely fit for the support of animal life. Beasts themselves seem to avoid the pernicious air of this neighborhood, as few quadrupeds were seen hereabouts, except such as have a predilection for whatever is foul and impure; such, for instance, as jackalls, wild dogs, and hyenas. Serpents of all kinds, and hideous insects, such as huge spiders, centipedes, caterpillars, and nondescript worms in infinite variety, appeared to congregate here, as if the empoisoned atmosphere of the place were their congenial element.

Dr. Livingstone took notice of another circumstance,

which may serve, in a measure, to elucidate some of the mysterious operations of Nature. In these dominions of "King Pest," the vegetable productions are chiefly of a poisonous nature. The fields were covered with the *atropa belladonna*, stramonium, *lobelia inflata*, poppy, several varieties of *euphorbia*, aconite, &c. Dr. Livingstone believes that Nature disposes such plants in unhealthy districts, because they are fitted to absorb the deleterious gases from the atmosphere, and therefore have a tendency to correct the pernicious influences of the climate.

The only large tree which grows abundantly in the district now under notice, is one which is found in many parts of Africa, and is known to the Cape Colonists by the name of "stink-hout," or stink-wood. This unsavory title is derived from the fact that the wood, until it is well seasoned, exhales a highly offensive odor. It is nevertheless one of the most valuable trees in Africa; in external appearance it is much like the oak, but in grain and color the wood strongly resembles black walnut. It is almost the only African wood which is well adapted to the uses of the carpenter and cabinet-maker. It is firm in texture and easily worked; and for many purposes it is far superior to the best pine or poplar.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

DR. LIVINGSTONE ENDEAVORS TO ENLIGHTEN THE DARMAS—HIS INDIFFERENT SUCCESS—THE PERSONAL PECULIARITIES OF THIS TRIBE—TOBACCO SMOKING EXTRAORDINARY—TERRIFIC COMBAT BETWEEN AN ELEPHANT AND A RHINOCEROS—SINGULAR RESULT OF THE BATTLE.

As Lehumí's unfortunate predicament compelled the Doctor to prolong his stay among the Darmas, he resolved to improve the occasion by studying the character of the people, and making a strong effort to do them good. Their excessive sensuality was the grand obstacle to their moral and religious improvement. They showed no great repugnance to the Doctor's creed, but the *practice* of Christianity was the great stumbling-block with them, as it is among the professors of our faith in all parts of the world. It is worthy of remark that missionaries to Africa, even when their labors are unsuccessful, are sure of kind treatment from the natives, who seem to consider a man's religious opinions of too little importance to deserve persecution.

As it respects personal appearance, the Darmas are a fine race of men. Many of them are more than six feet in height, and their forms are well proportioned.

Few of them are fat, because they are very careful to avoid the acquisition of too much flesh. They have some superstitious notions in relation to this matter, which Dr. Livingstone could never fully understand. Notwithstanding their well-developed bodily proportions, they have much less muscular strength than Europeans in general. The women are particularly well-formed, and almost invariably have delicate hands and feet. The dress of both sexes is very scanty, consisting chiefly of a scarf, made of goat or sheep-skin, which they wear for purposes of decency. The women wear ornaments of beads of their own manufacture, the workmanship being extremely rude. The men of this tribe wear no ornaments, as they consider them fit only for the softer sex.

The Darmas have no intoxicating drinks, but they contrive to make themselves drunk by smoking hemp-seed and tobacco; and they cultivate both plants for this express purpose. Their mode of smoking differs from that of any other people; for, instead of ejecting the smoke from the side of their mouths, they swallow it. Their smoking apparatus consists of the hollow horn of an antelope, in the smaller end of which is inserted a cup made of clay for the reception of the tobacco. Some of the Darmas, when solacing themselves with a pipe, swallow so much of the fumes of the narcotic weed that they sometimes fall down in convulsions, and often remain in a stupefied state for several hours. In some instances, death has been the consequence of their peculiar mode of smoking tobacco.

While he remained at the Darmas village, Dr. Livingstone had a very fair opportunity to acquire information respecting the country and its productions. On a certain occasion, while taking one of his customary long walks from the village, he witnessed a terrific combat between a large bull-elephant and a black rhinoceros. At the first view, the combatants appeared to be very unequally matched, as the bulk of the elephant was nearly three times greater than that of the rhinoceros; but the weapons of the latter were of the most formidable nature, consisting of two horns; a very long one near the tip of his snout, and a shorter one five or six inches higher up toward the forehead. The longer horn of this rhinoceros had a backward curve, and was about two feet in length, and as sharp at the point as a poniard. The upper horn was six or eight inches shorter; it was perfectly straight and as sharp at the point as the other. We have stated before that the horns of the black rhinoceros are solid; there is no animal production, perhaps, of a firmer consistency than the horns of these animals, for they are almost as strong as iron. Besides, the beast is a capital *fencer*, knowing how to use his weapons with the greatest effect. The elephant, on the contrary, is not a skillful warrior; he relies on his main strength; and is clumsy and inexperienced in all his movements, except in the management of his trunk.

The rhinoceros, moreover, is provided with *defensive* armor which the elephant lacks. The skin of the

former lies in thick folds on his body, and has aptly been compared to a coat of mail.

The fight had commenced before Dr. Livingstone came within view; so the cause of the quarrel was not ascertained. Knowing that the attention of the beasts was fully occupied with each other, the Doctor did not consider it imprudent to come near enough to obtain a fair view of the combat. He therefore watched the proceedings from a clump of thorn-bushes about thirty yards from the field of battle. When he first discovered the two individuals engaged in this duel, the elephant was threshing the rhinoceros with his trunk; and the weighty blows, falling on the tough hide of the recipient, sounded like the strokes of a ship-carpenter's mallet on the wedges with which he is splitting a piece of timber. The rhinoceros merely showed his sense of this castigation by an occasional snort; he was collecting his energies for an attack. For a moment, he turned his tail to the enemy, as if contemplating a retreat; but this was only a *ruse du guerre*; for, whirling around suddenly, he raked the elephant's side with his crooked horn, ripping open the skin to the length of full eighteen inches. The elephant expressed his pain by a sharp cry, and then attempted to wind his trunk around one of the fore-legs of the rhinoceros, evidently for the purpose of throwing him on the ground. This manœuvre did not succeed; for the rhinoceros warded off the blow with his doubly-armed nose. The elephant now paused for a moment, as if reflecting how the war should be carried on with such

an antagonist, whose comparatively small size seemed to make him somewhat an object of contempt. While the rhinoceros stood snorting and blowing, with his flank toward his opponent, the elephant made a sudden charge, hoping, no doubt, to overturn his foe with the impetuosity of his onset; and if once down, the smaller beast might have been successfully trampled under the ponderous feet of the larger.

This appeared to be the occasion for which the rhinoceros had waited; for as the elephant rushed forward with his trunk elevated and his breast exposed, the rhinoceros adroitly turned his head at the moment of contact, and offered his horn to the elephant's front; in which the whole length of the weapon was buried, such was the force of the collision. This was the grand *finale*; the elephant fell headlong, and the rhinoceros, in attempting to extricate his horn, stumbled, and was prostrated by the fall of his enemy, under whose vast body he lay crushed and bruised, without the power to recover from his confined position. The Doctor hastened back to the village and procured the assistance of some of the inhabitants, with whom he returned to the scene of the battle and secured the carcasses of both animals, the rhinoceros being literally crushed to death before their arrival.



HIPPOPOTAMUS CALE.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

CONCLUSION OF THE GUINEA-WORM ADVENTURE—DOCTOR LIVINGSTONE'S NERVOUS EXCITEMENT—HE IS ANNOYED BY A SMALL ANIMAL—THE BUSH TICK—VEGETABLE PRODUCTIONS—AN ADMIRABLE FLOWER—THE FAN-PALM—POISONOUS GRAPES—INDIGO AND SUGAR-CANE—THE EBONY TREE—THE NOROS VINE—ITS GREAT VALUE—CURIOUS ANIMAL DIET—FILTHY HABITS OF THE DARMAS.

THE Darmas physician fulfilled his engagement, by curing Lehumí within the time specified. The Guinea-worm, when extracted, measured about two feet in length, and was nearly a quarter of an inch in diameter. Dr. Livingstone preserved it in a vial of spirits, and on his arrival in London he submitted it to the inspection of an eminent surgeon who had been professionally engaged some years ago in the East Indies. This gentleman informed Dr. Livingstone that the same disease exists, under a different name, on various parts of the Asiatic continent.

For some time after Lehumí's recovery, Dr. Livingstone was nervously apprehensive of "Guinea-worms;" in fact, they were greater objects of dread with him than anacondas or boa-constrictors. One day he



felt an intolerable itching sensation on the calf of his leg, and shuddered at the idea that the dreaded worm had made a lodgment. Much to his relief, however, he ascertained, by consulting with the native doctor, that the trouble in this instance proceeded from a certain minute animal called the “bush-tick,” which may be mentioned as still another of the numerous insect nuisances of Africa. The African ticks, by the way, belong to a superior breed, if the excessive pain and irritation occasioned by their bites may be taken as an evidence of their superiority. When they fasten their heads in a man’s flesh, they hold on with such

resolute firmness, that nothing can disengage them but tearing away the body and leaving the head behind. Their bite often produces severe inflammation and other unpleasant symptoms.

The land of the Darma produces some of the most beautiful flowers that can be found on the surface of the earth. The floral wonder of this region is of a bright scarlet color, with dark-blue spots disposed over the leaves with surprising regularity. This flower is twice as large as a rose, which it equals in fragrance and surpasses in beauty.

Among other vegetable productions of this district, is the fan-palm, which is by far the most beautiful tree in Africa, or in any other part of the world with which we have any acquaintance. The tree grows to a great height, the trunk is perfectly straight, and each branch has a beautiful fan-like appearance. The fruit of this tree is about as large as an apple, but it has a single seed or stone, which is of such a firm consistency, that small articles made of it cannot be distinguished from ivory, which it is perfectly like in color also. Dr. Livingstone saw many of these trees which were from fifty to sixty feet in height. The great beauty of this fan-palm induced him to bring some of the roots to England, with the hope that it could be made to grow in that country. One of them was planted in Kew Gardens, but we understand the experiment is likely to fail, as the English soil or climate is evidently not adapted to the reproduction of this tree.

There is a sort of grape in the Darma country

which is exceedingly poisonous, although its appearance is very inviting. The fruit is of a large size and rich purple color. It resembles other varieties of the grape in the consistency of the pulp, the clustering of the fruit, and the disposition of the seed ; but it grows on a low bush and not on a vine. Each stalk bears two or three large succulent leaves and as many clusters of the fruit. The indigo plant and sugar-cane grow hereabouts in great abundance, but the natives are unacquainted with the uses of either of them. The ebony-tree is likewise one of the vegetable productions of this neighborhood. It has a small, stunted, and scrubby appearance, but the wood is valuable for many uses. This fact is known to everybody, but perhaps few people are aware that no tree yields better fire-wood.

That vegetable production which is most highly valued by the Darmas themselves, is a kind of vine or "creeper," called the noros, which bears a fruit similar in appearance to the mock-orange. Beneath the hard shell, or external covering of the fruit, there is a pulp of a very pleasant flavor, which is much used by the natives as an article of food. It seems to be perfectly congenial with their stomachs, but Europeans must use it sparingly, otherwise they will experience severe pains after eating it. When partaken of by strangers it is apt likewise to cause some inflammation of the mouth and throat. In short, this fruit is doubtless poisonous in a degree ; but (as it is with other vegetable poisons, opium and tobacco for instance), when the use of it becomes habitual, no injurious effects are perceived. The Darmas subsist, in

a great measure, on this plant; even the seeds are eaten by them after some preparation. This extraordinary plant serves to feed many beasts and birds, as well as man. As it grows wild and in great abundance, it is devoured by the rhinoceros, elephant, antelope, zebra, hyena, jackall, ostrich, parrot, bustard, &c. The domestic cattle and the dogs are likewise very fond of it. The Darmas preserve the fruit of the noros vine by drying it in the sun, and in this state it strongly resembles preserved dates in appearance and taste.



THE DOCTOR PREACHING TO THE NATIVES.

The Darmas are not very carnivorous in their habits, the use they make of one species of animal food

proves that their taste is rather erratic. Very often they are seen with their skin garments spread out before them, busily engaged in picking out the vermin and swallowing them with apparent relish. This is one instance among thousands that might be given to illustrate the filthy habits of these people. Dirt seems to be their congenial element, and cleanliness the principal object of their abhorrence. They never wash themselves, and the soil accumulates on their persons in a way which makes it impossible to distinguish their complexion. Their domestic utensils are never cleansed except by the tongues of the dogs; and they use the same vessels for holding their food and for every other imaginable purpose. They have a superstitious notion that rinsing the earthen pans in which they keep their milk is unlucky, as it is sure to prevent the cows from furnishing the usual supply. It requires a powerful stomach to endure the food prepared by them, after one has had a view of their culinary operations.

CHAPTER XL.

EXCITING SPORT — HUNTING THE HIPPOPOTAMUS —
DARMA HUNTING IMPLEMENTS—HOW THEY BATTLE
WITH BEHEMOTH—HIS FRIGHTFUL APPEARANCE—
HIS SANGUINARY REVENGE—HOW HE KILLS OR MU-
TILATES THE HUNTERS—A SAD ACCIDENT—LIVING-
STONE'S HEROIC BENEVOLENCE—HIS LIFE IN GREAT
DANGER.

THE Darmas used their best endeavors to make Dr. Livingstone's sojournment among them agreeable to himself. They furnished him with an ample supply of provisions, and invited him to take a share of their recreations. One of their principal amusements is hunting the hippopotamus. They regard this animal as their chief enemy, because he commits destructive trespasses on their gardens and plantations. Of their mode of hunting him, the following account is given by our traveler.

The natives construct a float or raft of reeds. The raft is large enough to hold five or six men with their hunting implements, harpoons, cords, &c. The harpoon has an iron head made by the Darmas themselves, who, like the Bechuanas, have some little skill in the blacksmithing business. The head of the harpoon is



WATCHING FOR THE HIPPOPOTAMUS.

diamond-shaped, and has a single barb, similar to that of a fish-hook. The shaft or handle is of wood, ten feet in length, and about three inches in diameter. The iron head and barb of the harpoon are fastened securely to one end of this pole, and the line or cord, made of many small leathern thongs, twisted or plaited together, is affixed to the other end. To the extremity of the line, furthest from its connection with the harpoon, is affixed a float or buoy.

When the hunters are embarked, the raft is permitted to drift down with the stream, until it reaches a spot where the hippopotami have made a settlement. Their presence is ascertained by a disturbance on the surface of the water, caused by the snorting or blowing of the

animals underneath. By the appearance of the ripple on the water, an experienced hunter knows the position of the creature below; he can judge therefore how to direct the harpoon when behemoth rises to take breath. As soon as the snout of the animal appears above water, the harpooner "lets him have it" in the side. The weight of the instrument adds to its projectile force, and it generally sinks deep into the body of the hippopotamus. As soon as he feels the wound, the beast begins to make violent demonstrations of resistance, plunging and pitching in a manner which threatens to submerge the raft with all its occupants. In case the danger becomes too imminent, the line attached to the harpoon is thrown into the water; the float at the extremity enables the hunters to recover it when the strength of the animal is exhausted. If the hunters can retain possession of the line, they pole or paddle the raft to the shore with as much expedition as possible; and when they are all landed, they give the line a turn round a tree to resist the animal's efforts to escape. The harpoon, when once driven home, always retains its hold, the thick and tough consistency of the creature's skin making it impossible for the barbed weapon to slip out. The hunters now begin to haul in the line, still keeping a turn around the tree. This is a laborious operation, and the united strength of eight or ten hunters is often required to effect the object. The appearance of the hippopotamus when he is drawn up to the surface of the water is truly terrific. His open mouth is like a yawning gulf; and the display

of his teeth and tusks, as he menaces his tormentors, is altogether hideous. Sometimes he anticipates the intentions of those who are hauling him in, by rushing to the shore of his own accord; and woe to the wretched hunter who happens to come within his reach! He has been known to cut a man in two by a single snap of his capacious jaws. In other cases, hunters have been horribly mutilated by his teeth and tusks.

Dr. Livingstone witnessed the process of hippopotamus hunting two or three times while he remained in Darnas land. On one of these occasions, a deplorable accident took place, which threatened to be still more unfortunate in its termination. The Doctor accompanied five of the natives on a raft, and after some time spent in maneuvering, the chief harpooner of the party succeeded in striking a hippopotamus, which began to make violent struggles for liberty. The beast happened to rise under one side of the raft, giving it a sudden jar, which caused one of the native hunters to fall overboard. The Doctor expected to see him swim for his life, when he appeared on the surface at some distance from the raft, being carried downward by the current; but it soon became apparent that the poor fellow could not swim. He stretched out his arms toward the raft and begged for help. To Dr. Livingstone's astonishment, none of the natives attempted to offer any assistance to the drowning man, but all stood aghast, or uttered yells of affright and despair. The Doctor, without a moment's reflection, plunged into the river and swam to the place where the man had again disappeared,

DR. LIVINGSTONE SWIMMING THE RIVER ZAMBEZI.



hoping that he would once more come to the surface. But while he waited with anxious desire to assist his perishing fellow mortal, he felt himself suddenly seized by the legs, and knew that he was in the grasp of the dying man. He was aware, likewise, that it is almost impossible to disengage one's self from the grasp of a drowning person, and his own destruction now seemed to be inevitable. Yet the assurance that he was about to perish in the performance of a charitable deed sustained him at that awful moment, and enabled him to look on the threatening aspect of death with calmness and intrepidity. In the meanwhile, he felt himself sinking, being dragged down by the rigid grasp of the drowning man; but suddenly that grasp of mortal agony was relaxed; it seemed that the body of the unhappy Dardas hunter was dragged away by some powerful inhabitant of the river, a crocodile most likely, and the Doctor being left at liberty, easily regained his place on the raft.

He now understood, for the first time, that the art of swimming is wholly unknown among this tribe. When the native hunters saw the Doctor moving through the water like a fish, they were perfectly astounded, regarding his aquatic performance as something either magical or miraculous.

CHAPTER XLI.

THE DOCTOR IS ABOUT TO RECOMMENCE HIS TRAVELS, BUT MEETS WITH ANOTHER CAUSE OF DELAY—ANOTHER ATTACK OF AFRICAN FEVER—HE RECOVERS AND RESUMES HIS MARCH—HIS IRREPARABLE LOSS—HE AND LEHUMI SCARCELY ESCAPE WITH THEIR LIVES—THE DOCTOR WITNESSES A STRANGE AND SHOCKING SCENE—A MARTYRED HYENA AND A TYRANNICAL LIONESS.

As Lehumi was now restored to perfect health, Dr. Livingstone made preparations to continue his journey, but fate still forbade his departure from Darmas land. A few days after his providential escape from drowning, the particulars of which were related in the last chapter, he was suddenly attacked by a very dangerous and malignant fever, by which he was completely prostrated for several weeks. When the fever left him, his feeble condition still unfitted him for travel, and the Doctor, who has some superstitious notions as well as other people, regarded these various causes of delay as an injunction for him to remain among the Darmas for a while longer. Accordingly he continued with them, giving them the benefit of his counsels and teachings, until the middle of the year 1855.

In July of that year he felt prepared for a fresh start, and took a most affectionate leave of his Darnas friends, among whom were some dozens of Christian proselytes, who had been converted under his own ministry.

He and Lehumi now resumed their march along the northern bank of the river, which had already become swollen, as the time of the annual inundation approached. While the Doctor remained at the Darnas village, he had prepared a record of his travels, comprising many scientific observations and important geographical facts. These manuscripts were enclosed in a knapsack, which he constantly carried on his back when pursuing his journeys. On the second day after his departure from Darnas land, his course was interrupted by a small tributary of the Zambezi, which entered that river on its northern side, and it therefore became necessary for the travelers to cross it, in order to continue their route. This little stream was not more than thirty yards in breadth, but it appeared to be deep and the current was extremely rapid. The attempt to swim across it was therefore somewhat perilous, but there was no other resource. The place which they selected for crossing was about two hundred yards from the point where the tributary stream entered the larger river. Almost as soon as they committed themselves to the water, they found that the difficulty of the undertaking exceeded their expectations. The impetuous stream carried them down toward the great river with such velocity that instead of crossing directly

to the opposite shore, they proceeded in such an oblique course that instead of swimming thirty yards as they expected to do, the distance was nearly half a mile. Besides, the rapidity of the current made it almost impossible for them to sustain themselves on the surface; and several times they were completely overwhelmed by the progressive force of the water. While Dr. Livingstone struggled to keep himself afloat, the knapsack containing his journal and all his valuable papers, was unfortunately disengaged from his back, to which it had been buckled; and, to his infinite grief, he saw it whirled by the tide far beyond his reach, and beyond all chance of recovery. Indeed both he and Lehumi had enough to do, while making strenuous efforts to preserve their own lives; and when they reached the shore at last, they were so much exhausted, that they lay down for two hours in the unctuous mud on the margin of the stream, before they could recover enough physical energy to proceed further.

The loss of his papers was a very great affliction to Dr. Livingstone; and it was a loss which has been much deplored by men of science and the public in general. By this disaster the world has been deprived of a regular narrative of Dr. Livingstone's travels, written by the traveler himself; and as the Doctor is not swayed by any of those ambitious motives which usually influence men when they write the history of their own adventures, it is highly probable that we shall never have an account of his wanderings and discoveries from under his own hand.

Dr. Livingstone, whose recuperative energies are beyond all parallel, was the first to recover from that state of exhaustion into which he and Lehumi had been thrown by their exertions in crossing the river. He arose, therefore, and began to consider how he might obtain a supply of food, which the enfeebled condition of himself and his follower now made particularly necessary. The rifle as well as the knapsack had been lost in crossing the river. While Lehumi still lay on the miry shore, enjoying a refreshing slumber, the Doctor walked to some higher ground at the distance of about two furlongs, where he hoped to find succulent herbs, or something else which might be eaten in a case of emergency. When he reached the little ridge of land to which his steps had been directed, he found that the spot contained some herbage, but nothing of an edible nature. While looking around with an anxious eye, he discovered the skeleton of an antelope, every bone of which had been cleanly picked by beasts of prey. As he gazed despairingly on this object, he heard a groan, which, judging from the sound, might have proceeded from a human being in great agony of body or distress of mind. He stood listening for a minute, and the plaintive sound was repeated. It appeared to come from a little thicket of thorn-bushes, about fifty feet from the spot where the Doctor stood. He hastened to the clump of thorns from which the groans seemed to proceed; and there, among the bushes, he saw a large hyena lying on its side; a posture which these beasts never assume unless they are disabled or

dying. The convulsive twitching of the limbs and the singular movements of the head showed that the animal was in much pain; and when the Doctor, impelled by compassion and curiosity, came nearer, he saw that the creature had lost both of its fore paws; and the pool of blood which was seen on the ground appeared to denote that the beast had been mutilated on that spot. The Doctor puzzled himself with conjectures how or why the hyena came to be subjected to such barbarous treatment, but was utterly at a loss to account for the fact. While his thoughts were thus occupied, an unexpected and startling apparition presented itself; a lioness emerged from another bushy thicket at some distance, and slowly advanced toward the spot where the Doctor stood and the mutilated hyena was lying.

As Dr. Livingstone was totally unarmed, he thought it prudent to avoid a meeting with the queen of the forest; he therefore retired, unobserved as he thought, and stationed himself among the "wait-a-bits," in a place where he might see what was going forward without exposing himself to observation. He now supposed that he had found a solution of the mystery which so greatly puzzled him before. He remembered a conversation which he had had with R. Gordon Cumming, the celebrated lion-hunter, when the latter was on a visit to the missionary station at Kolobeng, about two years previous. Cumming at that time informed Livingstone that he had found a hyena mutilated in the same manner as we have just described, and that some Bushmen had informed him that lions are accustomed to inflict such

punishment on inferior beasts of prey when the latter make themselves troublesome. Lions, jackalls and hyenas often feed together from the same carcass, but the inferior beasts on such occasions must always be careful not to interfere with the lion's kingly prerogative. They must keep their distance, and leave a sufficient supply of the meat for the use of his majesty. When one of the subordinate brutes gives offense to the lion, the latter exhibits a most tyrannous and vindictive disposition.

While the Doctor was recalling these particulars to mind, the lioness had approached the recumbent hyena, which, feeble as it was from the loss of blood, exhibited signs of terror, making ineffectual attempts to rise, and uttering cries expressive of fear and distress. The lioness sprang forward with an angry growl and bit off one of the miserable brute's two remaining feet. The indignation of the Doctor was so much excited by this exhibition of wanton cruelty, that he heartily wished for a gun or some means whereby he might inflict condign punishment on the aggressor. After the lapse of a few minutes, the lioness seeming to be infuriated by the groans of her victim, again sprang on the prostrate hyena, and fastened her teeth in its neck, inflicting a wound which probably put a speedy termination to its sufferings. Dr. Livingstone hastened from the spot, excessively shocked by the scene of bestial cruelty and unimaginable suffering which he had witnessed.

CHAPTER XLII.

LEHUMI ASTONISHES THE DOCTOR—RATTLING OF DRY BONES—THE BELOONDAS—THEIR GOVERNMENT—TRIALS—COSTUME—CUSTOMS—SUPERSTITIONS—LOVE OF TRAFFIC—KING MOTAPA—HIS PARTIALITY FOR THE EUROPEANS—HIS KINDNESS TO THE DOCTOR—LENDS HIM A TROUP OF ATTENDANTS.

WHEN the Doctor returned to the river bank, where he had left Lehumi, he found his serving-man awake, and somewhat troubled on account of his master's absence. Livingstone made Lehumi acquainted with his unsuccessful search after food; but when he incidentally mentioned the naked skeleton of the antelope which he had seen on the rising ground, Lehumi's sad countenance brightened up, as he arose and hastened to the spot indicated by the Doctor, where the skeleton had been discovered. He presently returned, and excited the Doctor's wonder by bringing the skeleton on his shoulders. Livingstone inquired if he was mad, and what he intended to do with the dry bones; to which Lehumi merely answered, "Master shall see." He then threw the skeleton on the ground, and searched about the river shore until he found a couple of rather large stones, one of which he placed on the earth near

the skeleton, and took a seat close by with the other in his hands. Dr. Livingstone watched these proceedings with much anxiety, beginning to suspect that his servant's wits had really gone astray. In the meanwhile Lehumi selected a large bone from the frame of the defunct antelope, and after cracking it like a nut between the two stones, he presented the dislodged marrow to his master and requested him to eat. Though Livingstone was hungry enough for almost any thing, he was not quite prepared for such an entertainment, and rejected the dainty morsel with some appearance of abhorrence; whereupon Lehumi himself swallowed the raw marrow with infinite relish, though the odor itself was enough to check a more civilized appetite. So long as a marrow-bone remained to be cracked, Lehumi continued his repast, all the time entreating the Doctor to take a share thereof, but Livingstone was deaf to his persuasions. When Lehumi's banquet was finished, the Doctor, though suffering much for want of nourishment, arose to depart. After a march of five hours through a miry country which produced scarcely any vegetation except reeds and spatterdock, the travelers arrived at an inhabited district of considerable extent, belonging to a numerous tribe, or rather a collection of tribes, called Beloondas. The government of this nation, like almost all native African governments, is patriarchal. Each man becomes a chief of his own family and their dependents. The hut of each patriarch or chief of a family, is in the centre of a circle, the circumference of which is composed of the huts of

his sons and daughters, if the latter are married. Sons-in-law are always incorporated with the families of the wives and become subject to the wives' fathers. Each family circle of huts is called a "cootla." Over all the patriarchal chieftains, or heads of families, there is a supreme chief, called "kosi," or king. Of an intermediate rank between the family chiefs and the king, there is a class of magistrates called "barenannah," or little lords. In all disputes which may arise between two family chiefs, the case is submitted to the arbitration of a "little lord," from whose decision an appeal may be made to the king. Trials are conducted before the "kosi" or king in a very judicious manner; the witnesses stand up when they give in their evidence, and appear, on such occasions, to consider themselves under a strict obligation to speak the truth. At a trial, the subordinate lords, or barenannah, are always present and act as the king's counselors. Each of the lords, in rotation, freely expresses his views in relation to the merits of the case. The king then sums up the different opinions, and generally gives his decision in accordance with the views of the majority. It will be perceived that these judicial proceedings are almost equivalent to the trial by jury.

The supreme chief or king of this nation is Mono Motapa. *Mono* is a title, signifying lord or master. This king or head chief is called by the Portuguese "The Emperor." The Portuguese settlements pay him tribute or "black mail," in consideration of the protection which he gives to their commerce with the natives.

They also lend him a file of Portuguese soldiers to serve him as a body-guard.

As the people of this tribe are in constant communication with the Portuguese, they have partly adopted the European costume. King Motapa himself, at the time of Dr. Livingstone's presentation to him, wore a "soldier coat," which had once belonged to a Portuguese officer, and which was considerably the worse for wear. His only other garment was an apron, made of some stuff which looked like bed-ticking, and which reached from his waist to his knees. His majesty's place of residence was a hut somewhat larger than the dwellings of his loving subjects. Five of his Portuguese guards stood on each side of the door, (there was not room enough for them inside,) and when Livingstone approached they formally presented arms in honor of his majesty's visiter. The Doctor could scarcely suppress a smile at this exhibition of court parade. He found the royal Motapa seated on a camp stool in the apartment which

"Served him for parlor, and kitchen, and all."

His favorite wife was stewing something which might be for his majesty's dinner, in a little earthen pipkin, on a fire made in a hole in the ground-floor of the hut.

King Motapa received the Doctor with much cordiality, and invited the reverend gentleman to partake of his dinner, which the queenly cook now poured out into a large earthen dish and placed it on the head of an empty barrel between her royal consort and

his guest. Livingstone was prepared by a long fast to do full justice to this feast, which consisted of stewed hippopotamus meat, and the broth thereof, thickened with flour of native manufacture. The mess was really very savory, and would have been unexceptionable if the Doctor could have had faith in the cleanliness of the cookery.

When the dinner was over, King Motapa, taking it for granted that Livingstone was on a mercantile expedition, inquired what commodities he had for sale. The Doctor's answer was very perplexing to his majesty, who could not imagine why any man should travel thousands of miles for the purpose of preaching a particular creed. But when he found that Livingstone had a secondary object in view, viz., the discovery of a good traveling route to the sea-shore, he heartily approved of this enterprise, and proposed, at once, to send some of his people with the Doctor, and to furnish him with all the means and equipments which might be required for the successful prosecution of this undertaking.

CHAPTER XLIII.

TRADE OF THE BELOONDAS—FEMALE SLAVES—MINERAL TREASURES OF BELOONDA LAND—GOLD MINE—SMALL POX—INOCULATION—THE WIFE'S PREROGATIVE—LOVE OF FINERY—THE INUNDATION—DREADFUL EPIDEMIC AMONG THE CATTLE—KING MOTAPA WILL NOT BE CONVERTED—FEMALE CONVERTS—DR. LIVINGSTONE TAKES COMMAND OF A SMALL ARMY—DISASTERS.

THE principal articles of traffic which the Beloonda tribes barter with the Portuguese for European goods, are ivory, gold-dust, the skins of many small animals, and beeswax. The last-named article is abundantly produced in all parts of Africa, where almost every hollow tree and vacated habitation of white ants, is a depository for wild honey. There is also some trade in slaves, especially female ones, carried on between these parties. This trade, however, has now become so dangerous, on account of the opposition of the British and American governments, that only a few desperate adventurers among the Portuguese will engage in it. All the trade of the river is carried on by this tribe in Portuguese boats, as the Beloondas are superstitiously opposed to the art of navigation, and therefore have no

canoes of their own, although several tribes situated considerably further from the coast, employ their own canoes in their commercial transactions with the Portuguese.



NATIVES DESCENDING THE ZÁMBEZI RIVER.

The territory of the Beloondas is full of mines; the ores of iron and copper are very plentiful; and there is a rich gold-mine somewhere in the district, but the natives use the utmost precaution to prevent strangers from discovering the locality of this precious deposit. They obtain gold in large quantities, and sell it to the Portuguese at a very low rate; considering themselves well paid if they can obtain an equal weight of coffee or sugar for this valuable metal. There are also ex-

tensive coal mines in Beloonda land, but the inhabitants have no knowledge of the use of this mineral fuel. The Beloondas are often visited by the small-pox, which they obtained from the Portuguese. This disease was unknown among them prior to their intercourse with Europeans. They have learned from their Portuguese neighbors to practice inoculation; and from the same source they have acquired a knowledge of the medicinal virtues of quinine.

The Beloondas, like almost all other Africans, practice polygamy; but the women are not in an abject or an enslaved condition, as they are in most countries where a plurality of wives is allowed. Every wife must have a hut to herself, and she is completely the mistress of her domestic establishment. The husband himself dare not enter her hut when she is absent. These people are disposed to be extravagant in their style of living. They have a desire to outshine each other in their dress and the decoration of their persons. The principal objects of their cupidity are gay dresses, ornamental trinkets, and fire-arms. For the latter, the Portuguese make them pay exorbitant prices, requiring ivory or gold-dust to the value of from 150 to 200 dollars in exchange for an ordinary rifle.

It was necessary for Dr. Livingstone to remain in Beloonda land until the inundation of the river had ceased. The healthiest season of the year in this region is in the months of June and July, when the marshes are all overflowed by the river. The whole surface of the country, at this time, looks like a sea.

The villages are all built on elevated ground, to which the floods seldom reach; and hence, when the surrounding country is inundated, the villages appear to be situated on little islands.

The Beloondas delight in rearing herds of cattle, and it is a desirable object with them to have all their beasts of one color. In this country a fearful epidemic prevails among all domesticated animals. Although this distemper is called "horse-sickness," it attacks cows, sheep and goats, with equal fury; sweeping them off by hundreds within the space of a few weeks. This disease is another great obstacle to traveling in Africa; and it is impossible for a beast of burden to proceed far into the country without falling a victim either to the "horse-sickness" or the tsetse fly. While waiting for the fall of the river, Dr. Livingstone was generously entertained by King Motapa, who was too worldly-minded, however, to feel much interest in those spiritual matters to which the Doctor would have invited his attention. He was quite willing, nevertheless, that Dr. Livingstone should Christianize all his subjects. "They have time to hear all this fine talk," said the royal Motapa, "but *I* have not." The Doctor succeeded in making some Beloonda converts, chiefly females, who promised, at the time of his departure, to exert themselves for the establishment of the true faith among their people.

About the first of September the earth had become dry enough for traveling purposes. Dr. Livingstone started from Beloonda with quite a troop under his

command. Besides his lieutenant, Lehumi, he was accompanied by eight of King Motapa's subjects, men of considerable importance in the kingdom, who were directed by their royal master to assist the Doctor in his exploration of a convenient traveling route to the sea-shore. They were likewise instructed to consider themselves under the command of Dr. Livingstone, and to submit in all things to his directions.

The whole party set out on ox-back, a mode of traveling very common in Africa. The royal Motapa furnished the oxen and all the necessary harness. The Doctor, who was not accustomed to this kind of conveyance, found it rather difficult to adhere to the round back of his quadruped, without the aid of saddle or stirrups, and several times he had the misfortune to be thrown off; but as the ground was very soft, he sustained little personal injury. He was aware, however, that his mishaps occasioned some half-suppressed merriment among his Beloonda attendants.

In many places the road was almost impracticable; for besides the depth of the mud, their progress was often obstructed by cane-brakes of such density that the oxen could scarcely force their way through them. It was probably on account of the great fatigue which the poor beasts underwent, that they were attacked by the fatal cattle-sickness on the fourth day after the commencement of their journey. This malady seemed to affect them all simultaneously, and in less than twenty-four hours after they were seized with it, every one of them perished.

CHAPTER XLIV.

THE TRAVELERS ARE COMPELLED TO USE THEIR OWN
LEGS—PROVISIONS SCARCE—UNPLEASANT LODGING—
PLAYING AT “LEAP-FROG” WITH A CROCODILE—THE
DOCTOR’S CURIOUS EQUESTRIAN PERFORMANCE—AR-
RIVAL AT THE FALLS OF ZAMBEZI—THE TRAVELERS’
PROGRESS STOPPED—MELANCHOLY DISASTER—EIGHT
MEN DROWNED.

BEING obliged by the death of their oxen to proceed on foot, the traveling party was now subjected to extreme toil and hardship. The track was about as unfit as it possibly could be for the purpose of pedestrian exercise. The whole surface of the ground was covered with half liquid mire to the depth of six inches on an average, and in many places the way was barricaded by thickets of reeds which were almost impenetrable. The progress of the travelers was therefore extremely slow. The sun in the meantime poured down his “golden rays” upon them with such intensity that their skins, in every exposed part, were scorched and blistered as though they had passed through a furnace.

Some of the Beloonda attendants carried guns, and knew pretty well how to use them if a proper occasion

had offered; but there was little game in these parts which could be made useful for food. A few pelicans and flamingoes were shot, but it was difficult to find any spot of ground dry enough to admit of making a fire for the purpose of cooking the birds. The natives were not put to a *non plus* by this inconvenience, for they could eat them raw in a case of necessity; but Dr. Livingstone, who was much afflicted with head-ache and nausea, caused by the heat of the sun, could not "bolt" such provisions without some culinary preparation.

Still greater difficulties were experienced at the close of the day, for want of sleeping accommodations. The whole party were obliged to lie in a composition which was neither mud nor water, but a "half-and-half" mixture of both. This couch was *soft* enough, but in other respects it was not very agreeable. That sudden change of temperature at nightfall, from excessive heat to extreme cold, which is one of the peculiarities of an African climate, made those damp and oozy beds particularly uncomfortable, to say nothing of their unwholesomeness. Yet for six nights in succession this was the only kind of lodging which our travelers could obtain.

In some places there was only a narrow strip of ground of sufficient firmness to bear the weight of a human being, the quagmires on each side of the narrow track being deep and extensive enough to swallow up a whole army. On one occasion, as the wayfarers were proceeding cautiously over one of these tracks, they were suddenly "brought up all standing," by the appearance

of a crocodile of very respectable size lying at full length across their path. The animal was fast asleep, a circumstance which was easily ascertained by his loud snoring; but how to pass him without waking him and exciting his resentment, was a problem not easily solved. It was impossible to go around, either by his head or tail, on account of the quagmire on each side of the path. Lehumu, in this emergency, suggested the expediency of leaping over the body of the beast, the diameter of which was equal to that of a flour barrel. Lehumu demonstrated the practicability of this measure by executing the feat. The Beloondas, who were all young and vigorous fellows, "followed suit," clearing the back of the sleeping beast without disturbing his slumbers. Dr. Livingstone had never been much accustomed to the exercise of leaping, and besides he wore a pair of heavy English boots, so stoutly constructed that he had traveled thousands of miles in them without finding that they were much the worse for this hard service. The weight and rigidity of these boots unfitted him, in no small degree, for such an aerial performance as that of vaulting over the back of the sleeping crocodile; but as it was a case of absolute necessity, he decided at once to give the experiment a fair trial. He did so, and his worst forebodings were realized by the event. One of his feet tripped on the scaly back of the animal, and the Doctor fell at full length across the crocodile's body. He soon recovered to a sitting posture, astride of the beast as if on horseback, with his face toward the tail. The

huge reptile being now "wide awake," and not a little frightened, began to move toward the water with alarming rapidity. Then was witnessed a spectacle which was probably never seen before, namely, a Christian missionary riding in a reversed position on the back of a crocodile. But the incident was too alarming to be ludicrous. Lehumí, with a yell of terror, rushed forward to his master's assistance; but the Doctor soon recovered his presence of mind, and by using the crocodile's tapering body as an inclined plane, he easily descended, *per caudam*, to the ground, as the creature glided away from beneath him. It was well for some of the party, perhaps, that the animal was too much frightened to make any demonstration of battle, or to resent the indignity to which he had been subjected.

In the afternoon of the twelfth day after their departure from Darmas land, the travelers arrived at the eastern extremity of the great valley, or basin, which comprises all those lands which are subject to the inundations of the river. The valley of the Zambezi is bounded, on all sides, by elevated margins or rims of hard crystalline rocks. Through fissures of these rocks the Zambezi, and all other rivers which permeate the valley, find passages to the ocean. At that point where the Zambezi river leaves the low-lying marshy district, and forces a passage through the rocky enclosure just spoken of, its breadth is suddenly reduced from three-quarters of a mile to four hundred yards, the river being here compressed between the two sides of the rock-bound defile through which it passes. At

this point, likewise, the waters acquire considerable velocity and are much agitated by various currents. On the northern side of the river, (the side on which Dr. Livingstone and his party were traveling,) the basaltic rocks rose perpendicularly from the very edge of the water, leaving no pathway for the travelers. Dr. Livingstone judged from the appearance of the rocky embankment on the opposite side of the river that there was enough of level space between the river and the rocks to afford a passage for pedestrians. But how was the river to be crossed? After some consideration the Doctor thought of one expedient, a somewhat hazardous one to-be-sure, but it was the only one which would enable him to pursue his intended route. He resolved to cross the river on a reed-raft, such as some of the natives use when hunting the hippopotamus. He mentioned this plan to the subjects of King Motapa who accompanied him, and explained to them the perils of the undertaking. The raft, composed of such materials, must necessarily be a very frail one, and it might possibly be carried down by the rapid current and wrecked among the cataracts below. The Beloondas were but little intimidated by these explanations of the dangers they were about to encounter, and simply answered that they had been directed by their king to accompany the Doctor, and that they must obey orders. The whole party then retraced their steps for about a mile to a place where the reeds grew, and where the flow of the river was comparatively slow. Here the native attendants were ordered to cut down a sufficient

quantity of reeds, and of these a raft was constructed in the most substantial manner possible. In the course of two hours the work was done and the whole company were embarked. From the appearance of the river at this place the Doctor judged it to be very shallow, and he hoped that they would be able to push the raft across by means of some stout reed poles which he had cut expressly for this purpose.

The river at this point was more than half a mile wide, and the depth, for the greater part of that distance, corresponded with Livingstone's expectations, the average being not more than three feet. But as they approached the southern shore the Doctor observed, to his grief and alarm, that the depth of the water began to increase. However, they were now only a few yards from the bank, and the Doctor believed that he should be able to land his party in safety. At this juncture the raft was seized by a strong current, which whirled it down the stream with considerable velocity. Strenuous efforts were made by all on board to incline the course of the raft toward the shore, but the force of the current was irresistible. The fragile structure was driven onward with increased rapidity, and soon entered the narrow defile through which the river passes. The sad story is soon told. The raft was impelled by the impetuous fury of the current against the precipitous embankment of the straitened channel, and a complete wreck was the immediate consequence. Before he was well aware of his situation, Dr. Livingstone found himself in the foaming water.

Several of the unfortunate Beloondas appeared for a moment, at some distance below, in the boiling eddies of the river, but they were soon overwhelmed by the raging waters and were seen no more. We mentioned before that the art of swimming is unknown among these people; the consequence was that not one of the Doctor's Beloonda followers survived this deplorable accident. The Doctor and Lehumi, who were both excellent swimmers, made vigorous struggles for their lives; but as it was impossible to land on that side of the river where the raft had been wrecked, on account of the steepness of the embankment, it was necessary for them to swim to the further shore. On account of the roughness of the water and the violence of the opposing current, this task was exceedingly difficult, and Lehumi would certainly have perished in the undertaking, had not the Doctor assisted him at the extreme hazard of his own life. After a long and exhausting struggle both reached the land in safety.

CHAPTER XLV.

THE DOCTOR'S EXCESSIVE GRIEF—MAGNIFICENT SCENERY
—STRANGE PHENOMENA—MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEAR-
ANCE OF A RIVER—A FERTILE REGION—COPPER ORE
—COAL—GOLD MINES—SEVERAL SAILORS DROWNED
WHILE COMING TO LIVINGSTONE'S ASSISTANCE—THE
DOCTOR'S AND LEHUMI'S ARRIVAL AT QUILLIMANE—
EMBARK FOR ENGLAND—STOP AT MAURITIUS—
LEHUMI COMMITS SUICIDE—THE DOCTOR ARRIVES IN
ENGLAND—PUBLIC TESTIMONIALS—CONCLUSION.

THE grief of Dr. Livingstone on account of the dreadful disaster recorded in the last chapter was truly agonizing. He accused himself, very unjustly, with having exposed the lives of the Beloondas to a hazard which might have been avoided; and he now deeply regretted that he did not command them to return, rather than permit them to engage in an undertaking which was fraught with so much peril. However, it is very doubtful whether they would have returned at the Doctor's command, as they had strict orders from their king to accompany Livingstone to the sea-shore; and it would have been an undue exercise of authority on the part of the Doctor to countermand these orders. Besides, it was impossible for him to foresee the event, and he believed that with

careful management, the river might be safely crossed. The extreme sensibility of his conscience made him censure himself without a cause.

The Falls of the Zambezi, at which the Doctor had now arrived, are situated in south latitude $16^{\circ} 40'$, east longitude $34^{\circ} 28'$. The river scenery at this point is magnificent beyond all powers of description. The water rushes through the rocky fissure with a degree of force which seems to produce a tremulous motion of the earth to a considerable distance. The whole surface of the Zambezi at this point, is covered with foam, and the white appearance of the water is strongly contrasted with the gloomy aspect of the overhanging rocks on either side of the river. On the southern side of the stream, however, there is a narrow strip of comparatively still water, not wider than a mill-race, through which canoes and other small boats may safely pass. The travelers having now transferred themselves to this side of the river, found a path which was barely practicable, between the rocky bank and the water. They proceeded slowly by clambering over fragments of rock which had fallen from the cliff, wading through the water which in some places was up to their waists, and occasionally swimming around the projections of the bank when they extended into the deep water. By these means they contrived, with much labor and delay, to make their way through the defile. When they had once more reached the open country, the Doctor in the greatest amazement exclaimed "What has become of the river?" The noble Zambezi

which is nearly three quarters of a mile broad, only a short way from the point where it penetrates the ridge of rocks, is reduced to a comparatively insignificant stream when it emerges from the chasm through which it passes. This phenomenon is not easily explained, unless we suppose that a large portion of the water finds its way into some subterraneous channel, the entrance of which is concealed somewhere within the rocky defile. It is no unusual thing, by the way, for African rivers to disappear in the same mysterious manner. A stream of considerable size flows westward from the country of the Bamangwatoes toward the Kalahari desert, but the waters are unaccountably lost, and the common belief of the natives is, that it flows *under* the desert and comes out on the other side.

The course of the travelers for two hundred miles was now through a very fine country watered by numerous rivers, and so very fertile that there is a continual harvest during the whole year. This region is favored also with vast mineral resources. Coal is one of its most abundant productions, and very rich mines of copper are found at short intervals. It is said, likewise, that in the neighborhood of Tete, the Portuguese have found mines of gold which are very productive. The remainder of Dr. Livingstone's journey to the sea-side was comparatively easy, as he traveled through a well populated country, where the people were extremely hospitable, and as there were many Portuguese settlers living along the route, he often enjoyed the comfort of a meal cooked in the European style and

the luxury of a feather-bed! He still followed the course of the Zambezi; which, though much reduced in size, was yet large enough, as the Doctor thought, for the purposes of navigation, supposing small steamers or flat-bottomed boats to be used in this service. At the distance of sixty miles from the coast, the river separates into several branches, and enters the sea by as many mouths. The Doctor followed that branch which disembogues at Quillimane, and arrived at that port on the second day of January, 1856.

At Quillimane Dr. Livingstone was informed that several of the crew of the British brig *Dart*, had been drowned while attempting to ascend the Zambezi to meet him, about three months previous. It appears that his father-in-law Moffatt had transmitted to England an account of his proposed tour along the river-side, and the officers of the *Dart* had been instructed to afford him relief. The brig was not able to ascend the river for want of a sufficient depth of water, but a boat was dispatched to the Doctor's aid. This boat with an officer and five men, proceeded about eighty miles up the stream in search of the traveler, but there was wrecked, and all on board except the officer and one man, were lost.

The Doctor found an English vessel at Quillimane, in which he took passage to Liverpool; Lehumi being steadfast in his determination to accompany his master all over the world, rather than be separated from him. On her homeward passage, the vessel in which the travelers were embarked stopped at Port Louis, Mauritius

Island, to take in some freight. When they came to the landing at this place, Dr. Livingstone saw something unusual in the behavior of his servant. Lehumi gazed with speechless astonishment at the houses, the vehicles, and other objects which were perfectly new to him; but when he glanced at the steam-vessels moving about in the harbor of Port Louis, his excitement became uncontrollable and terminated in frenzy. Before any body could be aware of his purpose, he threw himself from the deck of the ship, where he had been standing by his master's side. A wild shriek and a splash in the water aroused the Doctor from a revery to behold his unhappy follower sinking in the sea. As he disappeared beneath the surface, the poor maniac seemed to recognize his master, and stretched out his arms as if to bid adieu. Several boats were immediately launched, and Dr. Livingstone and many other persons hastened to the spot where Lehumi had disappeared, but he did not come up; and though all possible means were employed to save him,—though several English sailors dived after him, and drags were used for the recovery of his body, dead or alive, the sea held him in its embrace, and refused to give him up.

No event in the life of Dr. Livingstone ever afflicted him more severely than the strange suicide of this poor African, who had followed him through so many dangers and taken a part in all his toils.

In due time, the ship, with our traveler on board, reached England, where the Doctor was received with

the greatest enthusiasm by his admiring countrymen. How his eminent services to the cause of science, as well as to that of religion, have been acknowledged by the British public, is a matter of general notoriety. On his arrival at London, a public reception was given to the Doctor at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided; and after several complimentary speeches had been delivered, it was moved by the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, seconded by the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M. P., "That this meeting presents its most cordial congratulations to the Rev. David Livingstone, LL. D., on his safe arrival in his native country, after an absence of sixteen years, occupied in missionary labors and travels in South Africa. It entertains the highest admiration of that Christian benevolence, courage, and perseverance by which he was animated and sustained throughout his extended and perilous journeys in those hitherto unexplored regions; and the meeting hereby devoutly acknowledges the merciful providence of God, by which Dr. Livingstone was defended and preserved amidst the manifold dangers and gigantic difficulties of his noble enterprise."

Dr. Livingstone is now the man whom England delights to honor. The scientific and religious societies vie with each other in applauding his perseverance and success; and the great value and importance of his discoveries meet with due acknowledgment from the whole civilized world.

THE END.







